

# THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

20 APRIL 1960

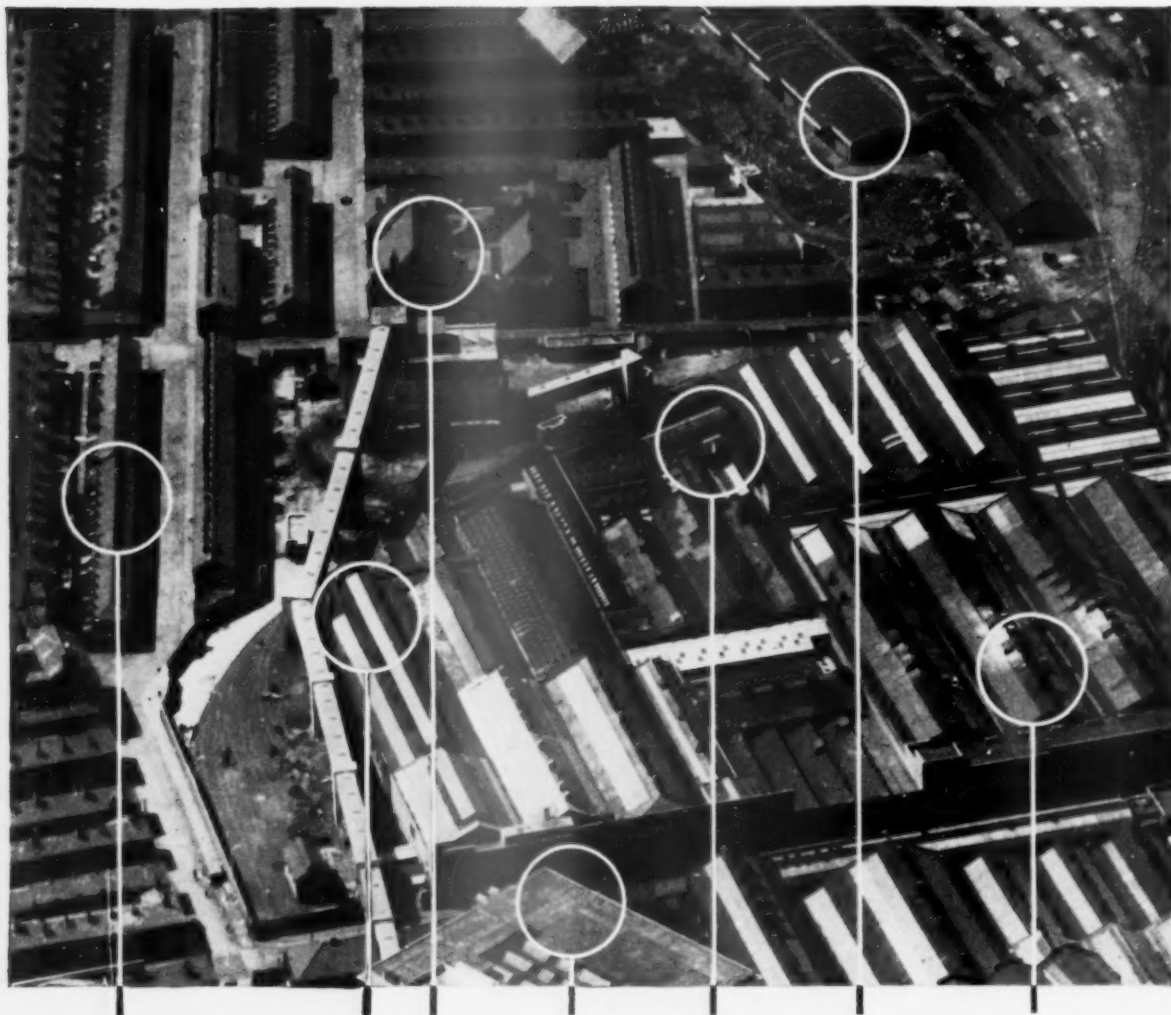
VOL. 217

NO. 16

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

- WEEKS HALL, IMPERIAL COLLEGE
- WORK OF SIR GILES GILBERT SCOTT
- LEGAL COMMENTARY: CARAVAN BILL

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# FOR 'HILLTOP' . . . 'the most imaginative experiment in licensed trade history'

the  
architects  
used

# NAIRN Vinyl tiles



The cafeteria at 'Hilltop', combined public house and community-centre at Hatfield New Town, Herts. The architects were Brett, Boyd and Bosanquet; the floorcovering which they specified was Nairn Vinyl tiles. Interior designer: HULME CHADWICK. Flooring contractors: S. H. WARE & CO. LTD.

## MODERN ARCHITECTS, MODERN FLOORING

"The most imaginative experiment in licensed trade history." This was how the *Morning Advertiser* described 'Hilltop'. This modern project is another example of the fine use which up-to-date architects have made of Nairn Vinyl tiles.

### What is 'Hilltop'?

A gift from two breweries (Guinness and McMullen's) to Hatfield, 'Hilltop' is an experiment in licensed house design. It combines, under one roof, a public house, an assembly hall-cum-theatre, a health clinic, two committee rooms, an unlicensed cafe with its kitchen, and the manager's private flat. A paved terrace runs around the licensed house.

### How Nairn's twin range of tiles offers inexpensive colour schemes

Nairn make two ranges of 3.2 mm tile for commercial use: the contractors' basic A range, and the architectural design B range. The five colours in the range are those in greatest demand by architects, and Nairn make these tiles specially for contractors who want to lay floors at highly competitive cost. Moreover, by including a few tiles from the lighter, more

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Besides the standard 9" x 9" size in 2.0 and 3.2 mm gauge, you can get Nairn tiles in all colours of the 3.2 mm range in a 12" x 12" size. This is the most economic size for laying and is particularly suited to the scale of larger installations.

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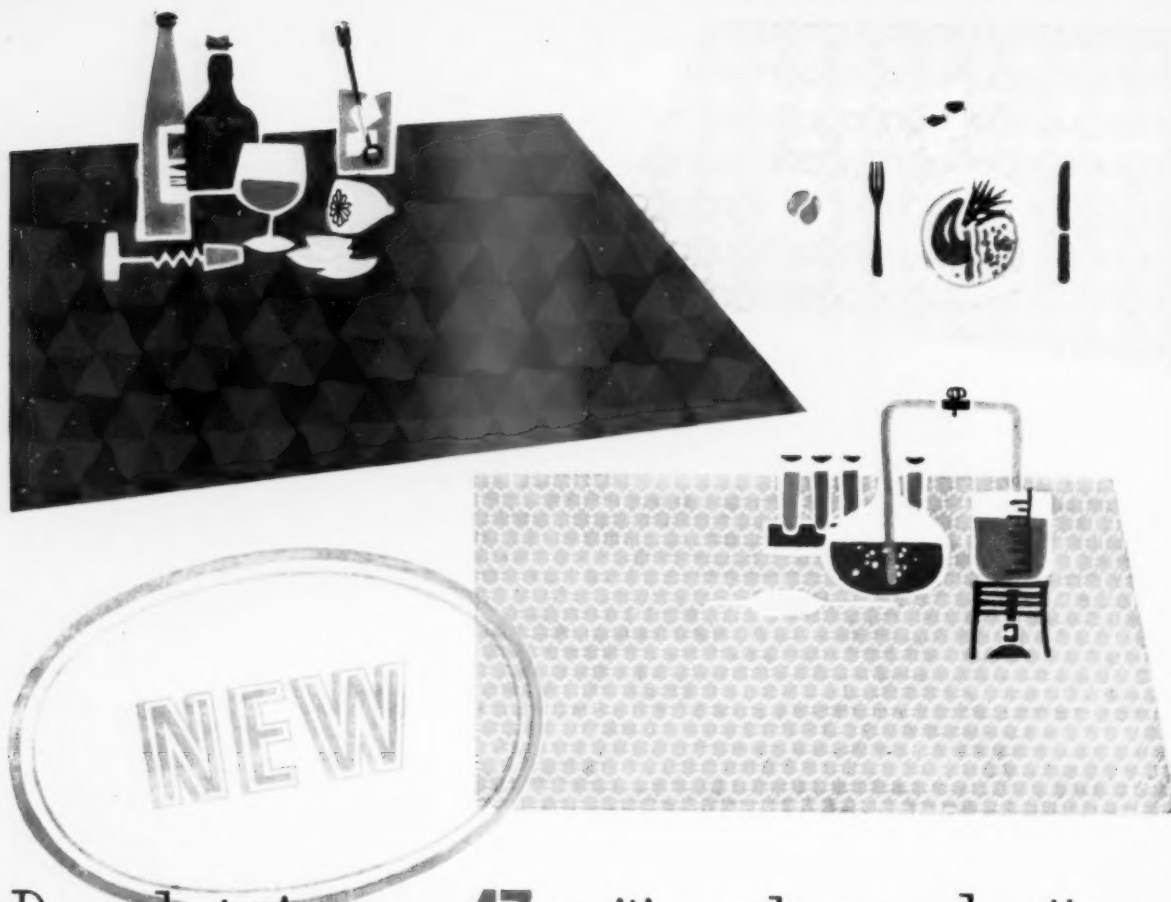
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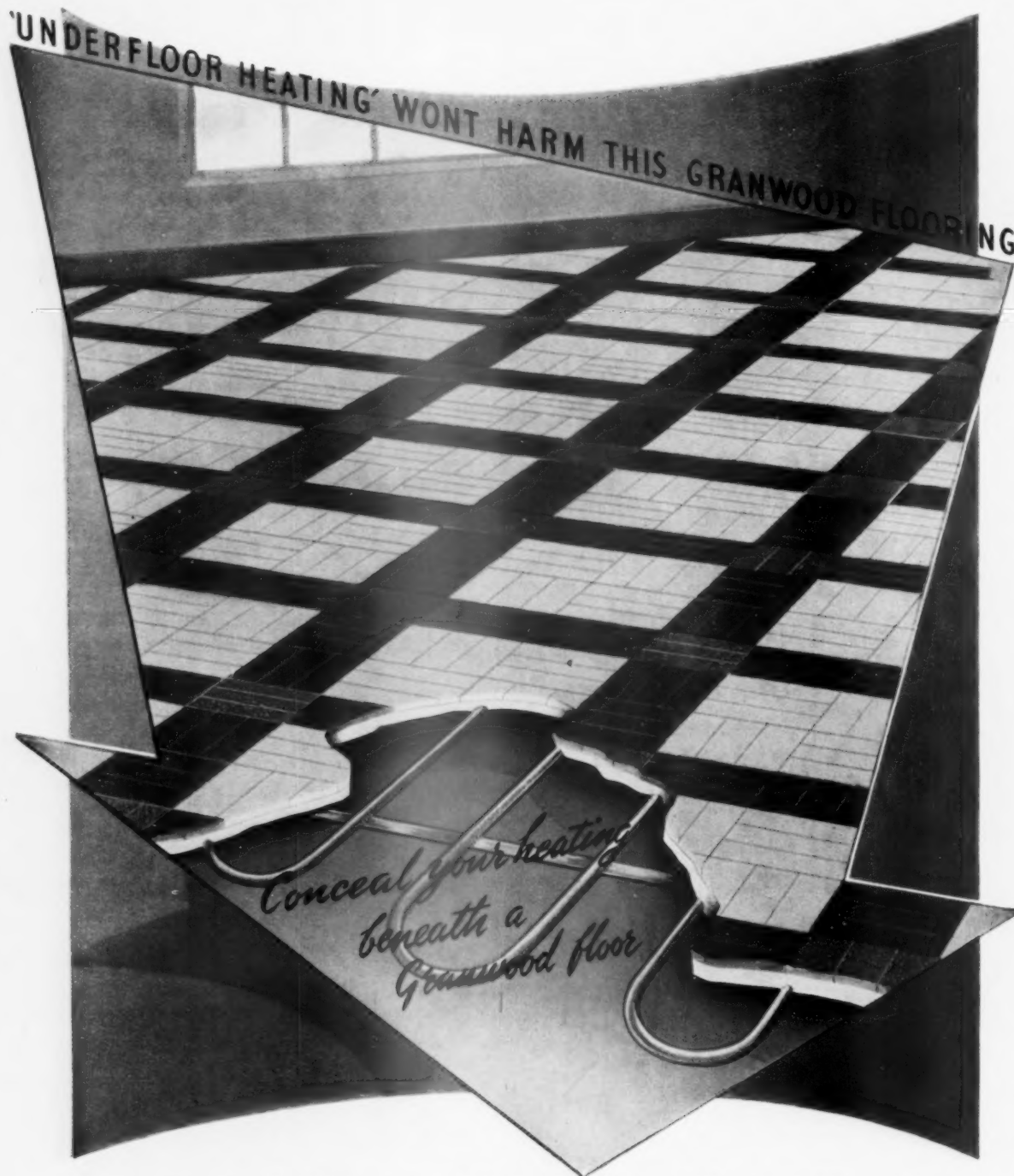


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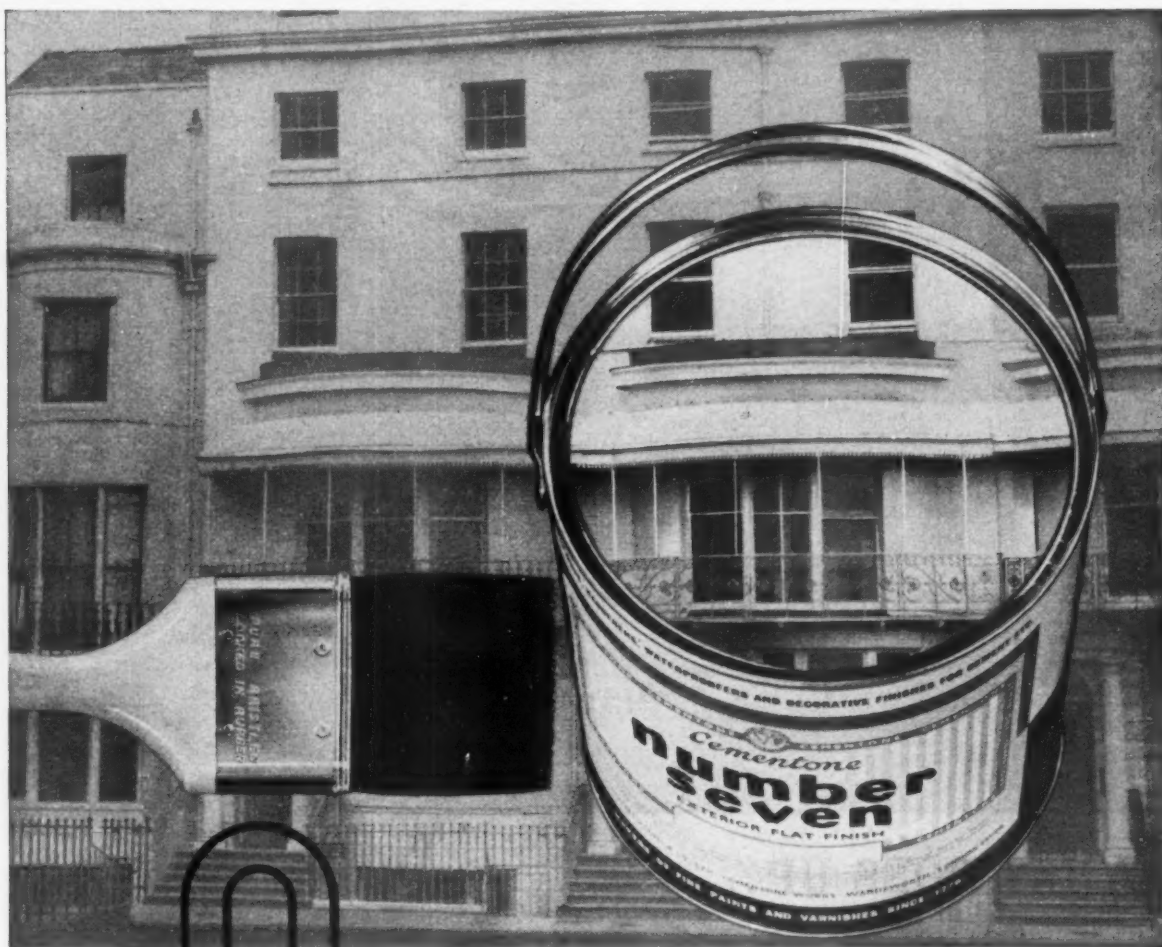
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*Paddy Kelly winning high jump championship of Ireland—Dublin 1888*

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*That is why so many lighting installations incorporate L.E.F. Raising and Lowering Gear*

When planning new lighting installations, remember that special consideration must be given to the maintenance of lights sited high up.

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### LEICESTER UNIVERSITY—Percy Gee Building

This hall is an excellent example of the concealed fitting of L.E.F. Raising and Lowering Gear which is used for each of the lights. Close liaison by L.E.F. with the contractors from an early stage resulted in a trouble-free installation.

*Architects: Thomas Worthington & Sons, Manchester.*

*Contractors: Witcombe & Blackwell Ltd., Leicester.*

*Photograph: Thomas-Photos, Oxford.*

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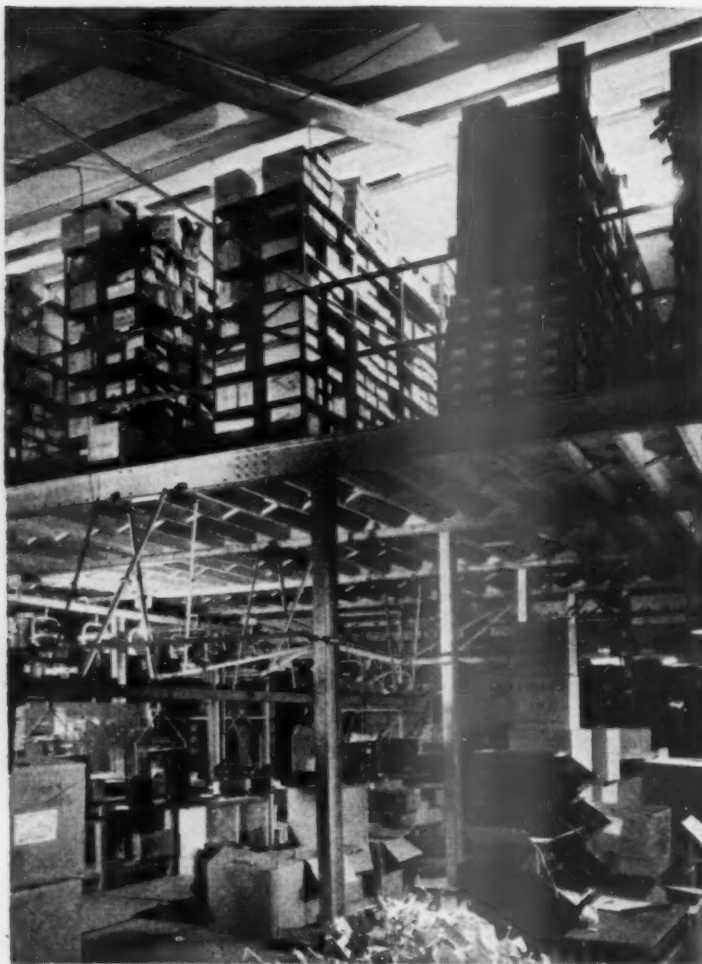
*'Perspex' is the registered trade mark for the acrylic sheet manufactured by I.C.I.*

P.780

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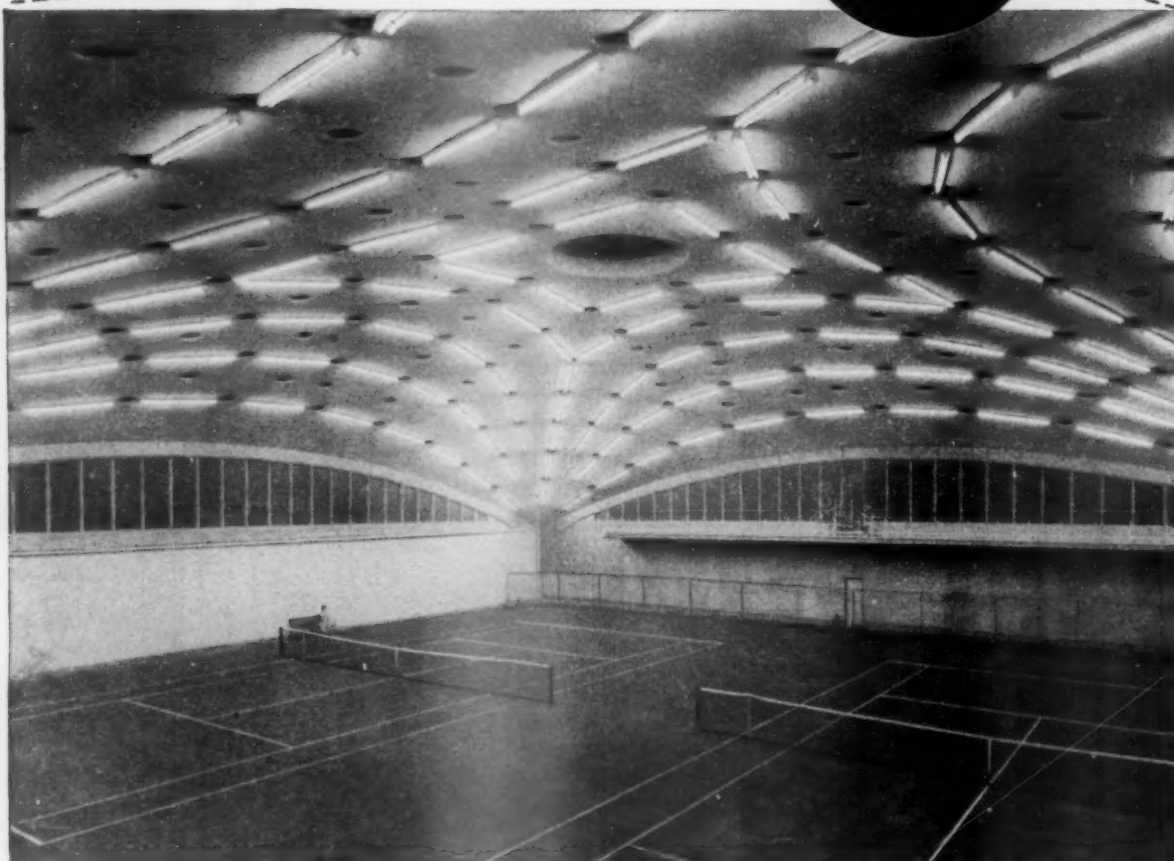
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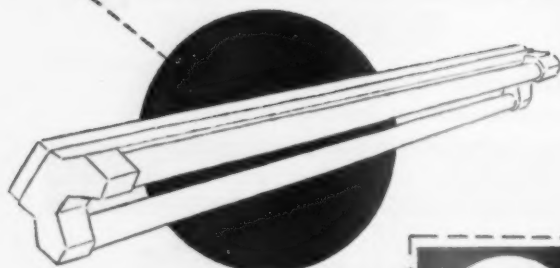
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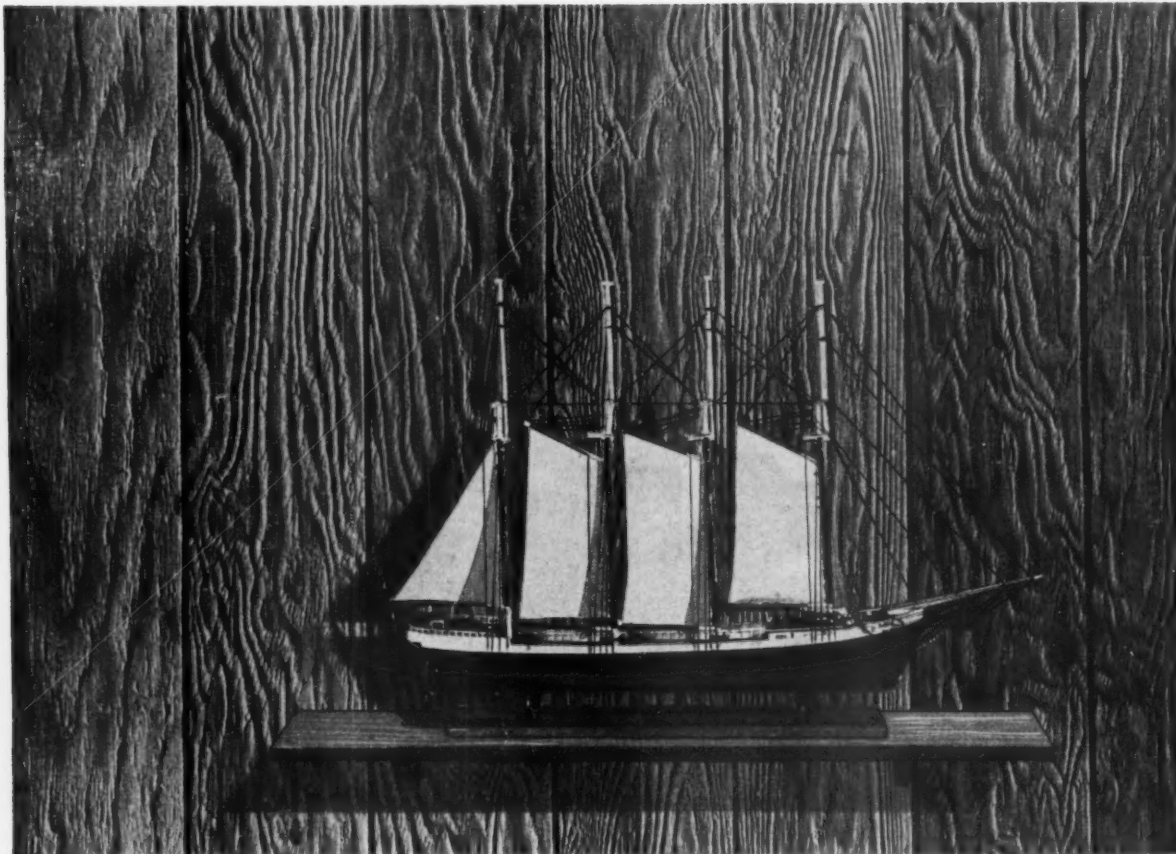
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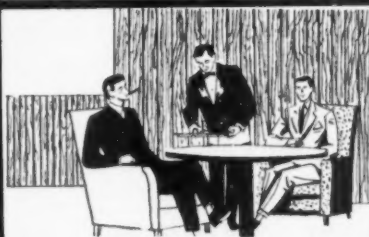
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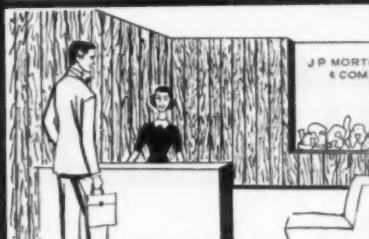




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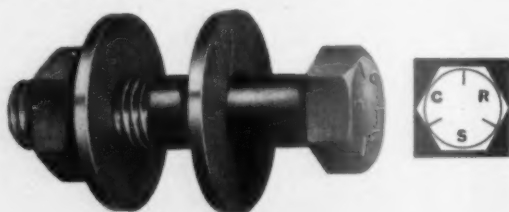
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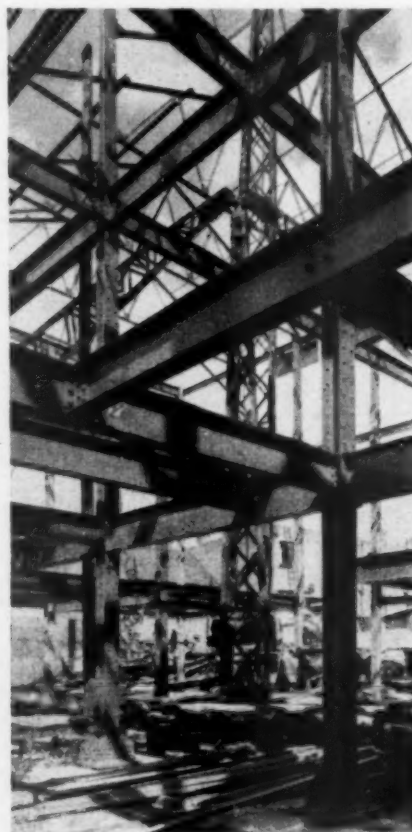
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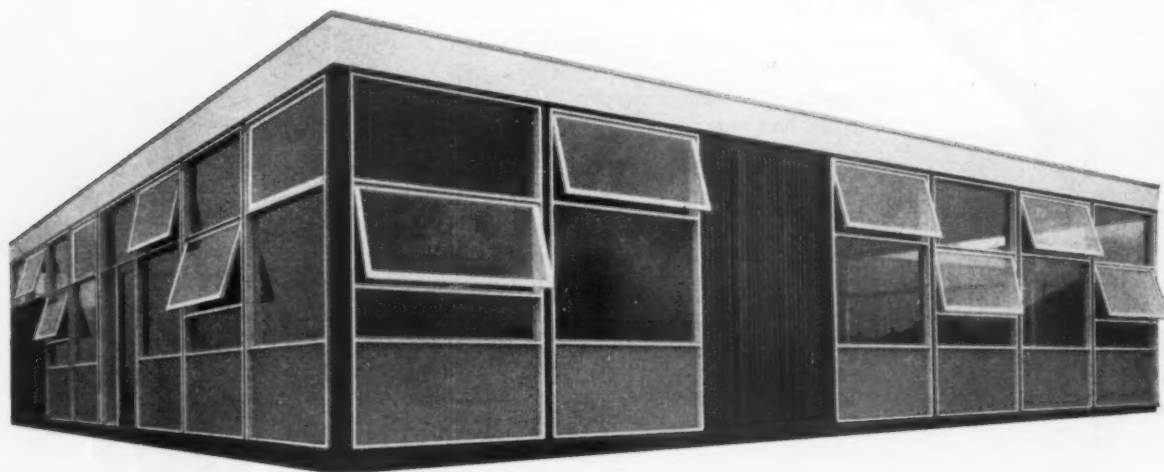
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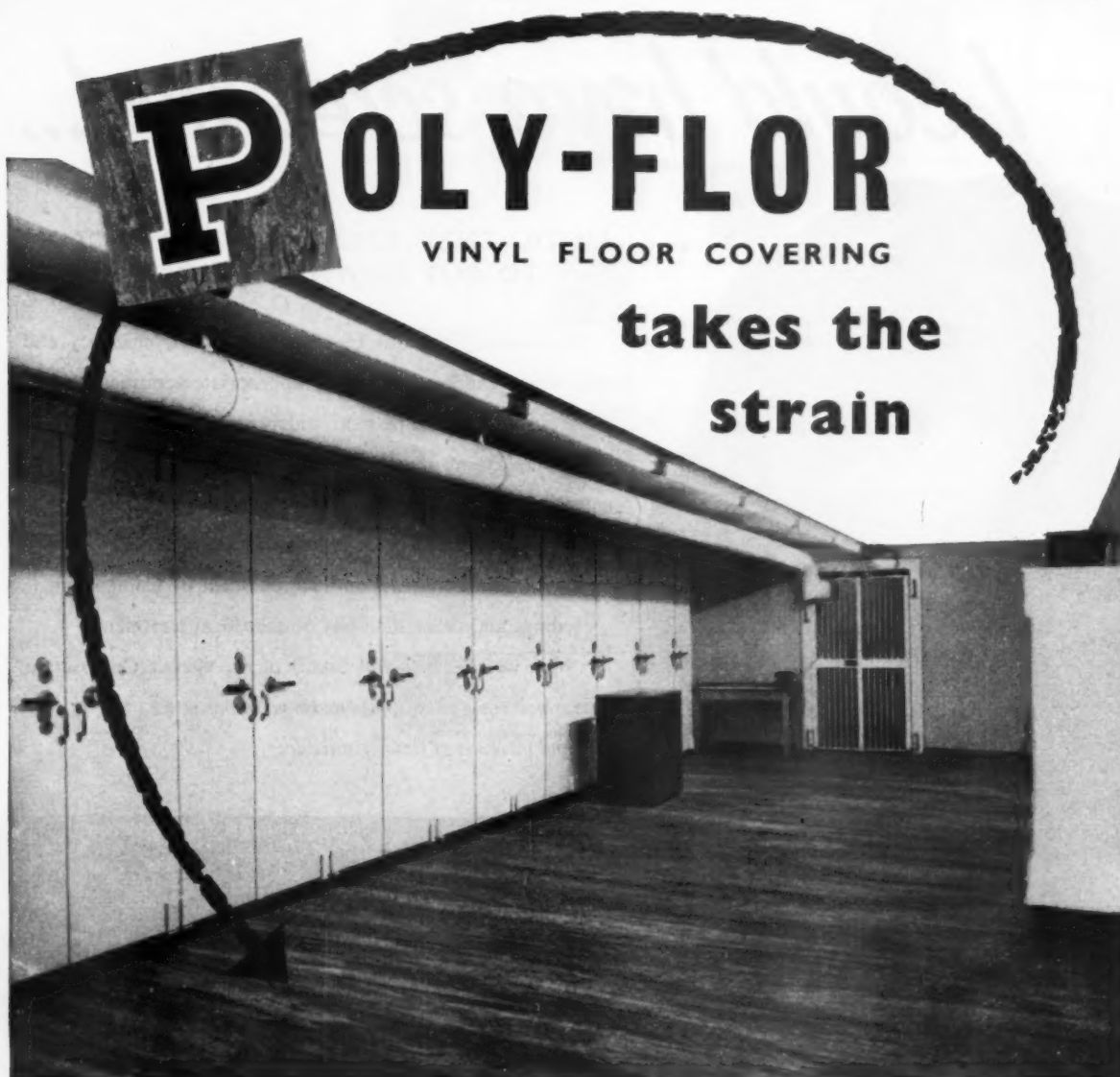
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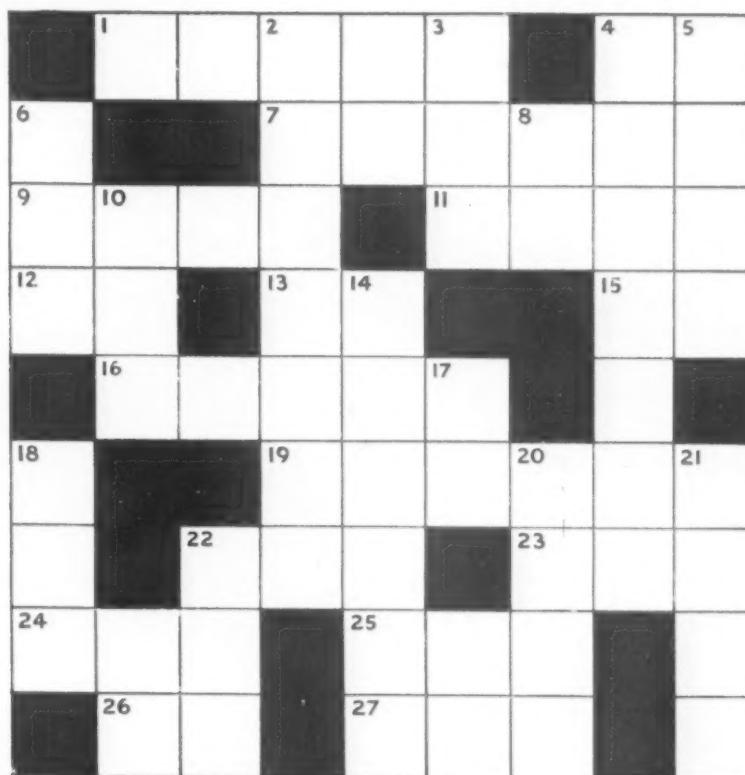
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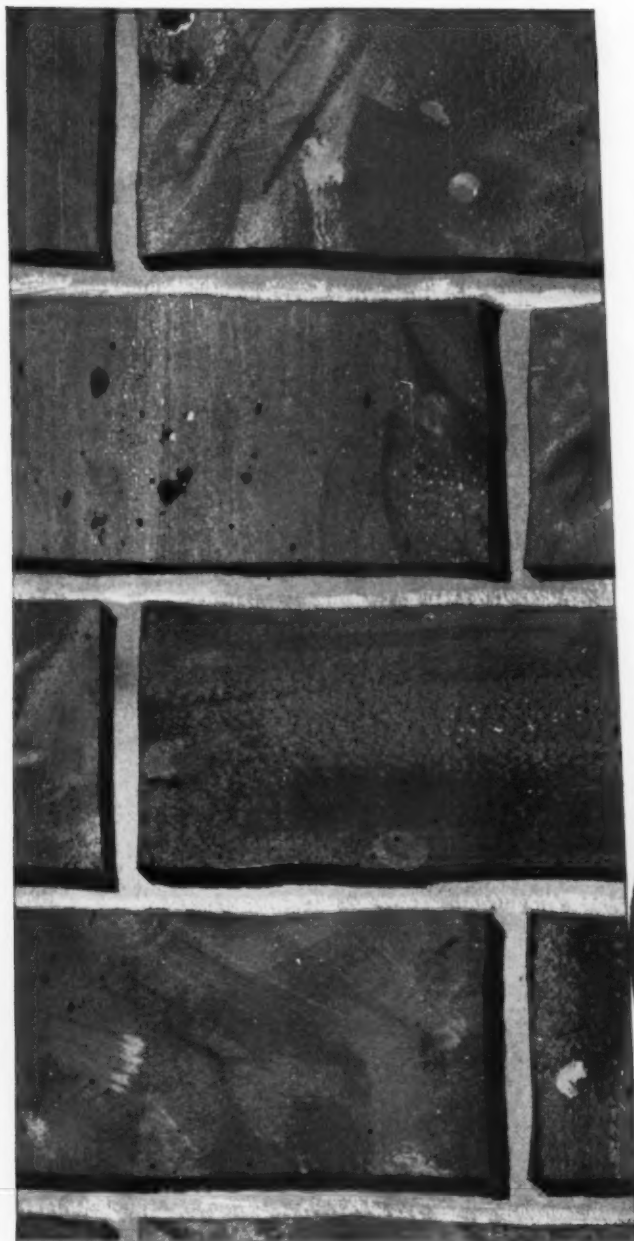
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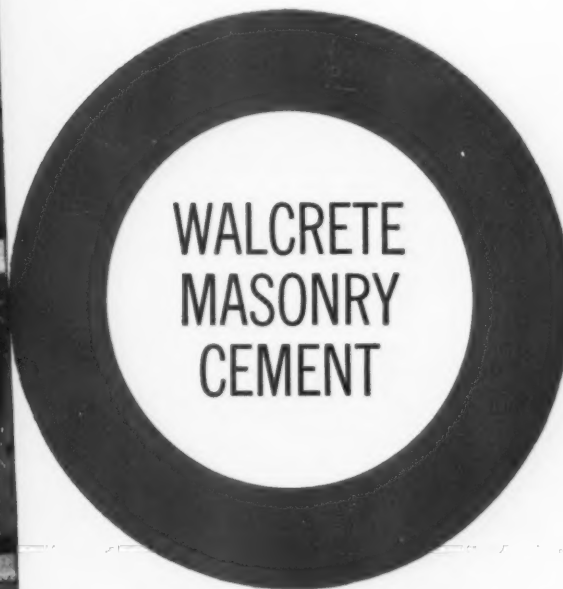
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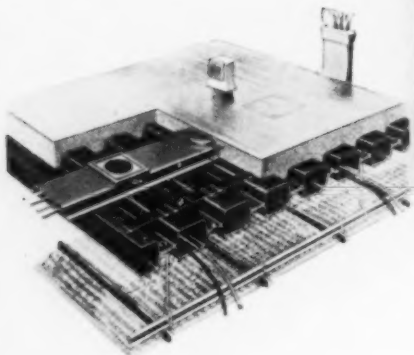


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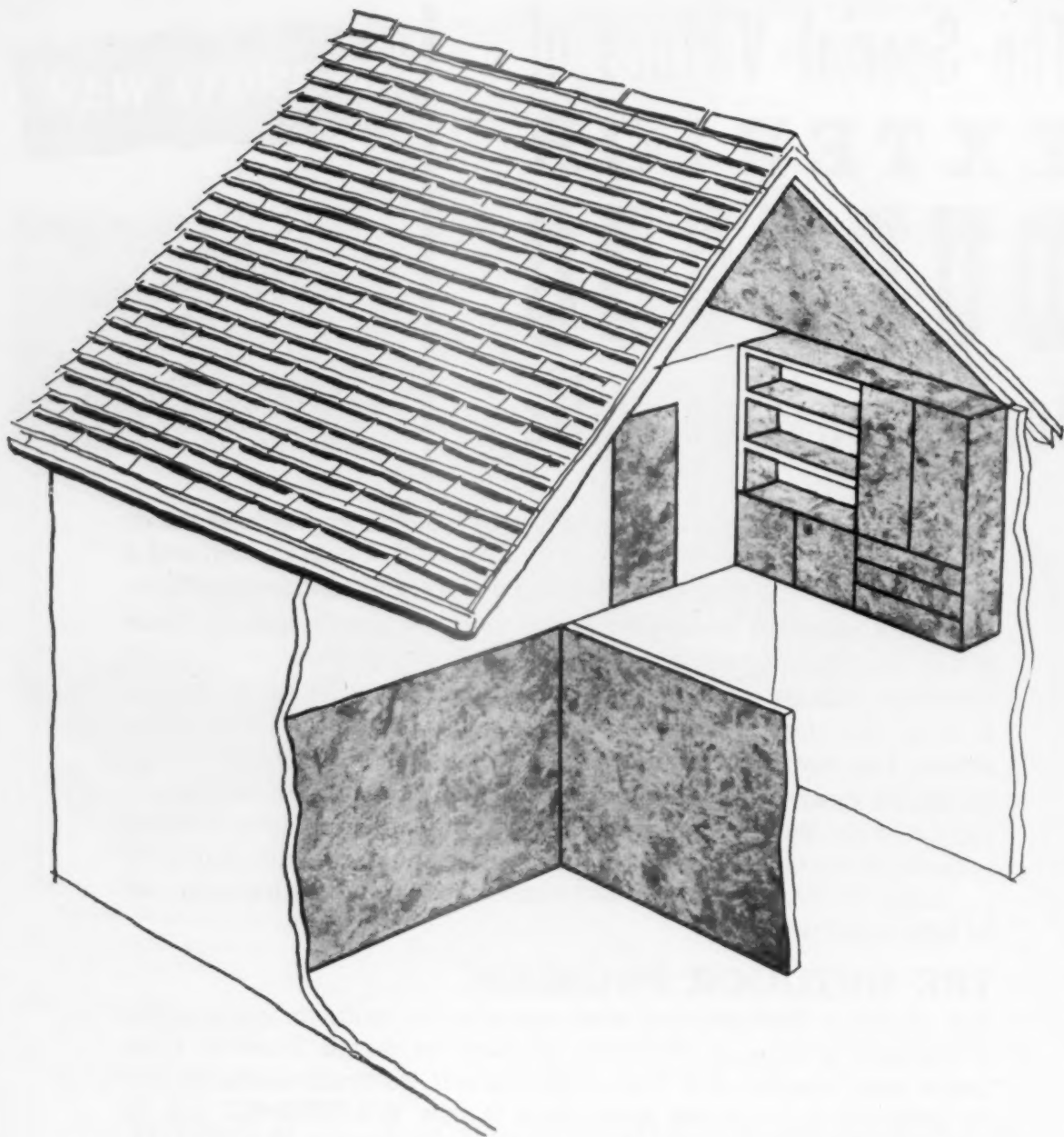
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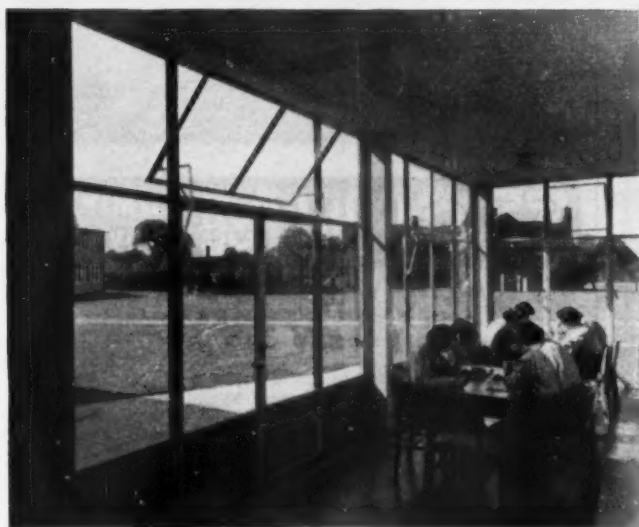
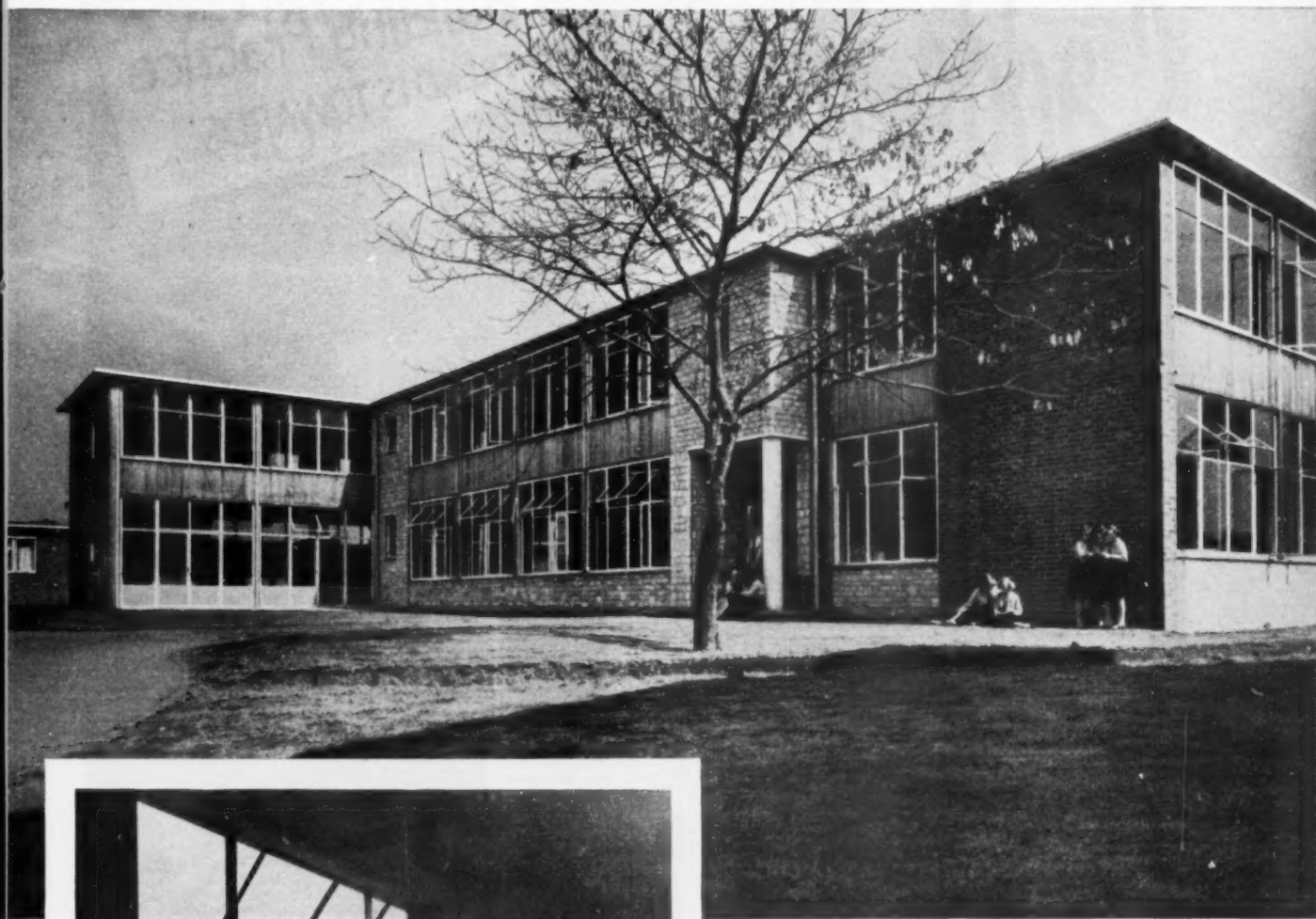
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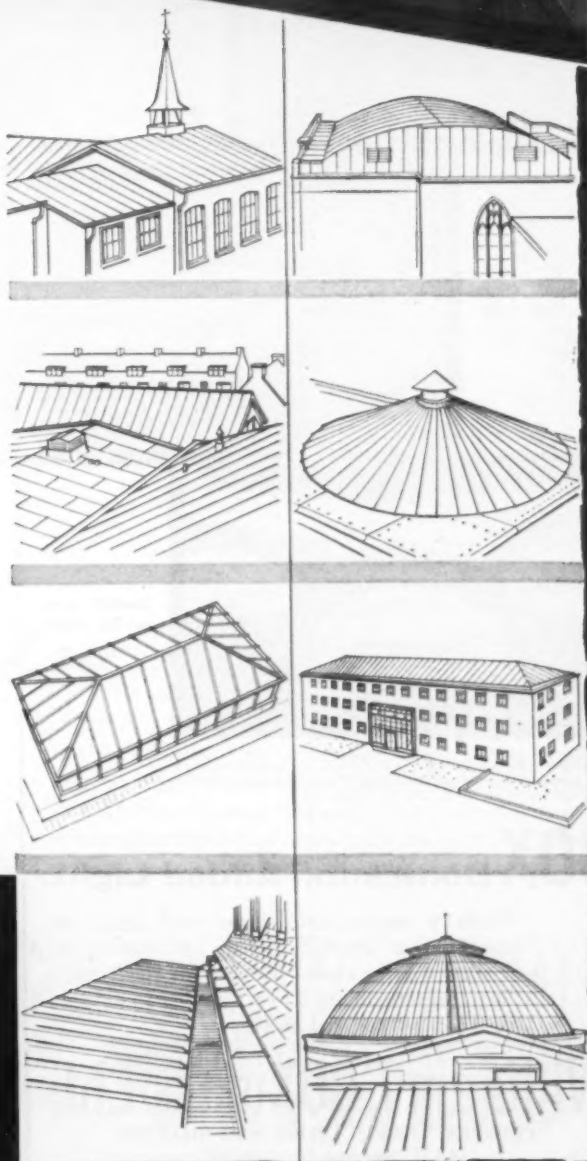
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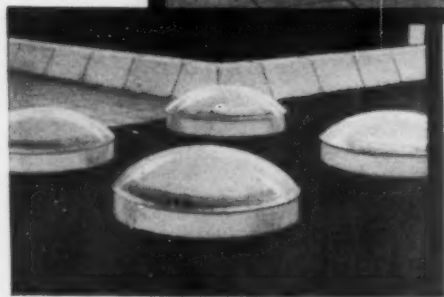
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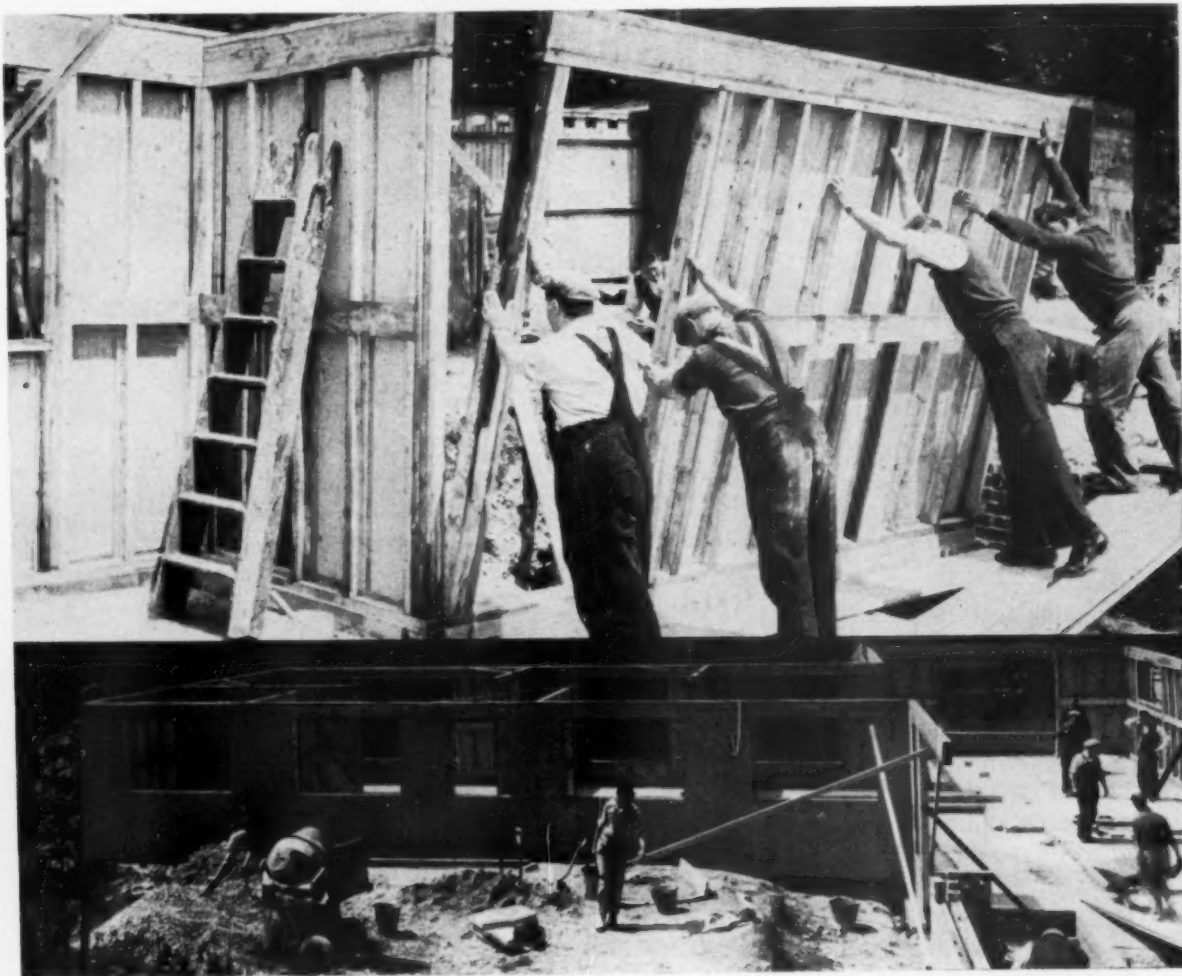
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20 April 1960

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## FRESH APPEAL PROBLEMS

**F**OR some time the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has commented upon the huge number of appeals reaching it during the course of a year. The deputy-secretary, Mr. Philip Allen, recently reported that some 9,000 planning appeals were made to the ministry in 1959. All the signs are that this year's crop is likely to be larger yet. The ministry have, understandably, been reviewing methods by which this number could be reduced, without harm to planning control or to individuals.

It is, therefore, somewhat surprising to find that the proposed new system for planning enforcement\* recently presented to Parliament, must inevitably lead to a further increase in the number of appeals reaching the ministry. Estimates may vary but the increase will certainly be large. As Mr. William Roots, Q.C., M.P., pointed out in the second reading debate† "the improved procedure for the enforcement notices is likely to be very largely nullified unless it is possible to achieve some expedited hearing by the minister's inspectors and a decision by his department".

Everyone familiar with planning appeals at the present time will appreciate the force of Mr. Roots' comment. Indeed, Mr. Allen himself observed recently that during 1959 little if any improvement had been made in the time taken to handle appeals. So it was not reassuring to find no answer made to Mr. Roots in the House, save an evasive comment by Sir Keith Joseph, in which he said that delay would not be serious because

the minister "is quite prepared to make special arrangements, *if necessary*, to make sure that does not occur".

Nor is delay the only anxiety. Many of the new appeals will involve difficult questions of law. It is quite true, as Sir Keith pointed out, that such questions are similar to those "which the minister is frequently called upon to determine on appeals under section 17 of the (1947) Act". Yet there has already been considerable comment in recent months upon the uneasiness displayed by inspectors when faced with questions of law at inquiries.

Lastly, there is a further cause for anxiety. Until last year there was virtually no right to take the minister to the High Court upon the outcome of an appeal; the Act of 1959 conferred an extremely narrow and largely valueless right in this respect. On these new enforcement appeals there will be a quite generous right to go to the High Court. This right is certainly to be welcomed but it may well call for a degree of care in ministerial decisions not hitherto noticed in every case. The question is whether this additional effort will lead to a further slowing-down of the appeal machinery?

Broadly, the new system, described on another page, is much to be welcomed. But in view of the present state of the ministry's appeal machinery, anxieties as to the effect the new measure may have upon appeals generally, plainly deserve a better, clearer and fuller answer than the minister has so far given.

\* Caravan Sites and Control of Development Bill, H.M.S.O., 1s 6d.

† Hansard, March 24, 1960, Col. 702.



## EVENTS AND COMMENTS

### THE A.A. RECEPTION

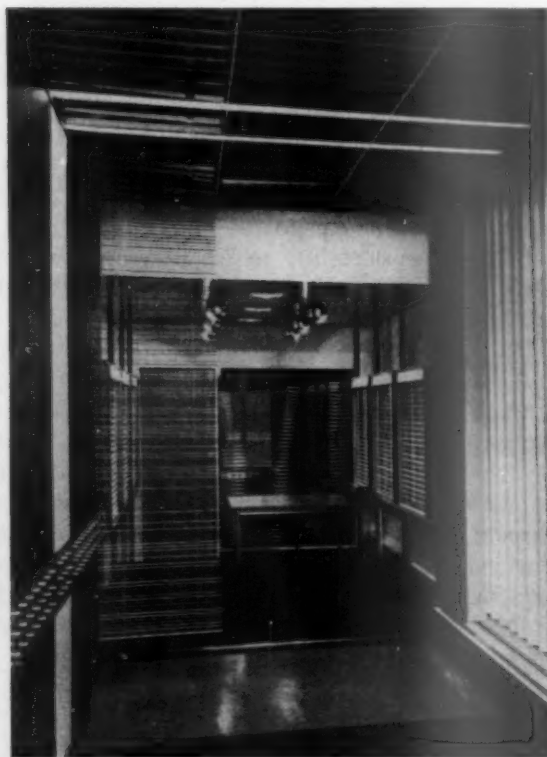
The Architectural Association keeps up the standard of its annual reception wonderfully well. This year nearly 800 people attended, including a large number of young people. The president, Mr. H. T. Cadbury-Brown, with his wife received the guests. I think that Mrs. Cadbury-Brown is the first American hostess the A.A. has ever had, she more than maintained the high standard and looked lovely.

The guest of honour was Professor Pier Luigi Nervi, the Royal Gold Medalist. I noticed an Indian family of four or five, the ladies in saris and the men in long black coats and white trousers, immensely dignified. A little later in the dance hall I saw two of the party jiving like mad.

### THIS YEAR'S SIDESHOWS

This year the sideshows included puppets, a magic lantern lecture and ancient films mixed with that remarkable character, Mr. Magoo. In the shots of military parades taken at the beginning of the century, the general turnout of the troops looked awful, and in the return of Lord Roberts from the Boer War, the little old man looked terribly creased. Collections of Victorian toys and peepshows brought nostalgic memories of one's own lost treasures and a display of exquisite Victorian visiting-card cases, mostly in inlaid mother-of-pearl, showed that some good at least came of that curious social custom. Sailors' stitched

*Showroom for Venetian Blinds Ltd. designed by John and Sylvia Reid*



ships—some may remember George Robey doing one in a piratical musical show called *Jolly Roger*—provided a lesson in forgotten rigs, and the customary quiz fooled the customary number of people. This year it was rather more difficult than usual, as the organizers by mistake pinned up one of the photographs back to front, and what should have been the little mermaid at Copenhagen was a picture of a fishing boat at sea. One needed second sight to detect this.

### PRETTY GIRLS

I am happy to report that the supply of pretty girls seems to be holding out well at the A.A. There were some real beauties this year of all ages and they were well dressed too. Now that fantastic hats and hair-do's are again fashionable, it is only a matter of time before someone goes to the A.A. reception wearing a cuckoo clock or with her hair done like an ionic capital. The band, a mature jazz affair belonging to Mr. Eric Silk, was very good and was made even more remarkable by a demure, matronly woman singer who sang like a brace of trombones.

### ROW IN PARADISE ROW

Proposals for the development of Paradise Row, Henley-on-Thames, were reported in last week's issue. The public inquiry produced the usual outbursts from angry locals. One described the scheme as "monstrous", "appalling", "atrocious" and "speculative building at its worst". The odd thing is that the architect is Mr. John Morton, of Morton Lupton, and the scheme looks rather good to me.

The main objection seems to be to the proposed 25-storey block of flats which is part of the scheme. Suggestions have been made that it might be cut to 18 storeys or less. Surely that would spoil the whole idea? Views have been expressed that a tall building would be out of place in Henley-on-Thames. If it is a well-designed one, and with this architect I would expect this to be so, I think it would be an exciting asset. It is true that in the past castles, church spires and mansions have often dominated the country scene; perhaps it is now the turn of the common man's dwelling?

### VENETIAN BLINDS UNLIMITED

If I had been asked what I thought of the future of venetian blinds, I think I would have said that enough people had tried them out in their homes and offices now to have found out that charming though they look and efficacious as they undoubtedly are for stopping the all-too-infrequent sun, while permitting ventilation, they have one over-riding disadvantage. They are the very devil to clean. I seem to remember that the Victorians threw out the wooden pattern for the very same reason. I know that some firms will clean them for you if you send them back to the factory, but that is a terrible toil, and you simply cannot send them back once a month. My gloomy prognostication is, however, not shared by Venetian Blinds Ltd., a firm specializing in the installations of all blinds of this type, with variations. John and Sylvia Reid have designed a very neat and workmanlike little showroom for them some distance above Heal's on the east side of Tottenham Court Road. Here you can see all the types available on the British market. Nearly a hundred blinds are housed in the ceiling and can be let down at will. There are, as a matter of fact, great possibilities here of letting down blinds with a bang on other people's heads or between them and their loved ones. There are some workmanlike offices at the back with one for the boss man which is nearly as big as the showroom.



The collection contains one type of blind quite new to me. It consists of vertical strips of fabric—no crease, no stretch, washable, in a vast colour range, etc.—and fixed under tension in top and bottom rails. It behaves exactly like a vertical venetian blind. It can be drawn to the side or its louvres can be opened and closed. It looks enchanting; in fact, much too good to be true.

#### HOW TO CLEAN THEM

Naturally I asked how the experts cleaned ordinary venetian blinds. Here is the answer. Take a feather mop, real ostrich for preference, and arrange the blind so that the louvres are closed with their upper edges under the lower ends of those above. Brush *upwards* from the bottom. Then close the louvres in the other direction, that is to say with their upper edges outside the lower ones of those below, and brush *downwards*. Or is it the other way round?

#### DIVERTISSEMENTS AT THE R.I.B.A.

This is not to report another palace revolution at the R.I.B.A., but to urge you to take tickets for an evening's entertainment at 66 Portland Place in aid of the Architects' Appeal for World Refugee Year. The junketings will take place on April 28 and tickets are two guineas each. What do you get for your money? Carbarat with star performers, including the entire cast from "Look Who's Here" and a lot of other names which will make you pant to be there. Bands? Why! Johnny Bassett's Big Band with a personal appearance of Johnnie Dankworth, Dick Williams' Band and our old friends the Temperance Seven. There will also be a film show and a raffle of sculpture and paintings by such well-known artists as Reg Butler, Eduardo Paolozzi and William Turnbull. The whole professional effort is being provided free of charge and that goes for the staff of the R.I.B.A. too, who have volunteered to stay late to help.

#### YORK MARCHES ON

The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, York, has announced three further courses for May and June. The first is entitled *Urban Renewal: The Centre*, and speakers include Lionel Brett, Peter Chamberlin, Arthur Ling and Noel Tweddell. The second is *Tree*

*An impression of the £3 million head office of the Ford Motor Company of Canada, on which work has been begun by Taylor Woodrow (Canada) Ltd. The new building adjoins the Ford plant between Toronto and Hamilton. Architects: Allward and Gouinlock, Toronto*



Professor Pier Luigi Nervi, this year's Royal Gold Medalist, (right) is greeted by Ove Arup, senior partner of Ove Arup and Partners, civil engineers, at the recent R.I.B.A. reception in Nervi's honour. Basil Spence, R.I.B.A. president, is in the background

*Preservation in Town and Country*, with speakers from the Forestry Commission, local authorities and C.P.R.E.; and the third is *The Architecture of New Roads*, with Walter G. Bor from the L.C.C., Sylvia Crowe, Malcolm MacEwan, chief information officer of the R.I.B.A., and other specialists, including engineers. The courses last from Friday until Tuesday, and the tuition fee for each is six guineas. Full information can be obtained from the secretary to the institute at Micklegate, York.

#### WERNER BISCHOF

An exhibition of photographs by the noted Swiss photographer entitled *The World of Werner Bischof* is to be opened by the Swiss Ambassador at the Building Centre tomorrow. The Pro-Helvetia Foundation and the Museum of Fine Arts, Zürich, are the sponsors. Werner Bischof was killed in a car accident in 1954, and the present exhibition has been organized by his widow.

It will be on view at the Building Centre until May 11 when it leaves for the Louvre. Henri Cartier Bresson is the only other photographer to have been so honoured by the Louvre.

The exhibition is essentially of people and some of the pictures are already world-famous as "photo-journalism" of the most striking and powerful kind. Many have an entirely special quality impossible to describe except to say that they seem more real than reality and, when one knows the country photographed, strangely evocative. Only when looking at the work of Cartier Bresson have I experienced the same gripping emotions. This is an exhibition which should on no account be missed.

**ABNER**

## Letters to the Editor

### "Lead, Kindly Light . . ."

Sir,—I was interested to read your leader (A. & B.N., April 6, 1960) and the details of Lord Ailwyn's questions in the House of Lords regarding Chelsea's streetlamps, in the issue of April 6; particularly as the replies to Lord Ailwyn's questions are misleading and, in some instances, inaccurate. The replies were presumably supplied to the Government by the Chelsea Borough Council.

1. It is said that the Borough Council consulted the Royal Fine Art Commission before deciding on the design of the lamps. In fact it was the Royal Fine Art Commission who offered assistance, and the Borough Council recommended that the Commission's views be sought on the type of equipment selected.

This recommendation was made AFTER the Borough Council had chosen equipment for both A and B roads.

2. The Borough Council claim that they tried aluminium posts as suggested by the Commission, but there is no record of the Commission suggesting such posts.

3. Lord Ailwyn was also told the steel posts now being adopted are of a standard design approved by the Council of Industrial Design. Recently the Council of Industrial Design did approve the G.E.C. 25-foot A road steel octagonal column, but the 15-foot B road G.E.C. steel octagonal column is NOT on the list of approved designs, and this is the column about which there is so much dissatisfaction.

4. The Borough Council say they have had long discussions with their ratepayers since 1956. Any discussions they have had with the ratepayers have been forced on

them as a result of letters in the Press and by deputations unwillingly received at the Town Hall.

The Borough Council put up a pilot scheme, with a minimum of publicity, and eventually, on their own initiative, adopted another type of lamp.

5. Finally, the Borough Council claim to have consulted various societies including the Chelsea Society, and their reply, which was not included in the Government's answer to Lord Ailwyn, was that "the hexagonal light suggested for B roads is, in the opinion of the Council of the Society, badly proportioned and pretentious".

This opinion, as with the suggestions made by the Royal Fine Art Commission, was disregarded by the Borough Council.

Nor is there any record of other societies having been consulted and these societies are not named in the reply.

Yours, etc.,

CLIFFORD HALL.

### Local Government Salaries

Sir,—It was with great interest that we read the recent letter from "Nalگو Members, Barnsley" (March 16).

May we assure our colleagues in the north that we in the south agree wholeheartedly with their plea for a complete revision of salaries for local government technical staff.

It is evident from recent reports in the technical press that local authorities throughout the country are experiencing extreme difficulty in recruiting experienced technical and professional staff.

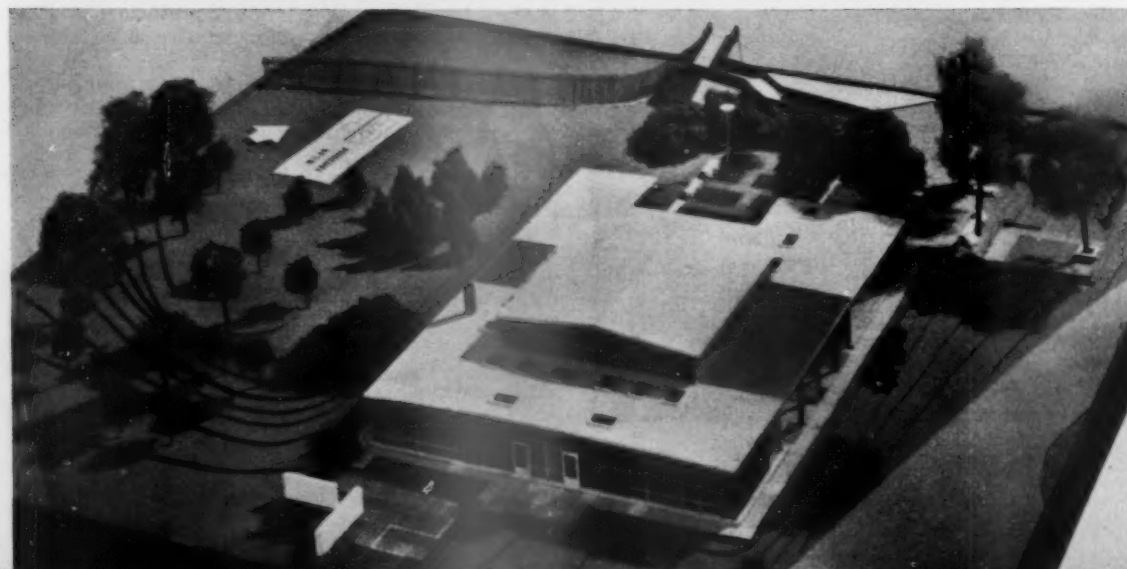
We therefore feel that this problem requires a forceful presentation by members of Nalگو throughout the country in order that it may be dealt with successfully as a national issue.

Yours, etc.,

MORE NALگو MEMBERS, BRISTOL.

### BRITISH EXHIBIT AT THE MILAN TRIENNALE

A model of the British exhibit at this year's Milan Triennale exhibition, which opens on July 16 and closes on November 4. It is a typical three-class primary school, designed by Mr. W. D. Lacey, County Architect, Nottinghamshire, and based on Newark (Barnby Road) Infants' School. The school will be built by the C.L.A.S.P. prefabricated system to permit its erection by a small labour force. The steel-frame structure is by Brockhouse Ltd. and the foundations are constructed to beat mining subsidence. General Contractors: City Display Ltd. (Full details in a later issue)



In which John, Tony, Mary and Denise  
discuss getting out a Bill of Quantities

ANARISC

## Conversation Piece — I

SPRING was just round the corner. The crocuses had bloomed, the first lamb had gambolled and from Plymouth to Glasgow the "definitely terminating" notices had at least been removed from the pantomime billboards. John (A.R.I.C.S.) and Mary had invited Tony (A.R.I.B.A.) and Denise around for the evening. It was something they had been meaning to do for weeks.

John and Tony were discussing work and Mary and Denise, who get on very well together, were knitting and talking about things that wives do talk about—clothes, children, the home and women's magazines. Occasionally their remarks spilled over into a pause in the conversation between their husbands, suddenly noisy and out of place in the unexpected silence. Tony was speaking.

"What exactly do quantity surveyors want from us? I can't believe, for instance, that you want every drawing of the job in the first day."

"Put it this way. What we want is facts, information. We don't even require drawings if you give us this, although, of course, drawings are the most suitable way for you to tell us what you want. We want drawings only when they have been thought about and drawn and altered and re-drawn and have a reasonable chance of not being altered again. And we don't like drawings which are pre-consultant; we don't like measuring brickwork, for instance, from drawings which have been prepared in advance of the consultant's design of steel or reinforced concrete frame. Too often architects send us eighth scales saying the structural drawings will follow in a few days, and when they arrive, after three weeks, somebody's dimensions of brickwork and finishings have to be scrapped or rehashed—and rehashing, let's be honest about it, leads to misunderstandings and mistakes, however carefully you try to avoid them. As soon as the quantity surveyor makes a mistake the architect quite rightly points it out to him with something of a pained look, and although we are at fault we sometimes feel that the mistake may not have occurred had the drawings been better. We are trained to translate facts from a drawing into a book, and we feel that we have a right to ask that the drawings be clear and accurate."

"How do you begin to measure a job, John?"

"That depends on the size. A large job must obviously be split up between takers-off (those are the people who measure, as opposed to the workers-up who follow on with the more clerical work) while a small one may be measured completely by one person. Take a large job, a school, for instance. From well detailed eighth-scale plans and elevations, with a schedule of finishings, it is always possible to make a start on the internal finishings."

"But surely you want to know sizes of doors and windows for this?"

"No, no, not at this stage. Finishings are measured initially overall; floors and ceilings, then walls, then skirtings, each room or area being treated as a box. You begin with floors and ceilings because the dimensions you write for them give you a girth for the rooms which you require for wall finishes and this girth is

then used again for measuring skirtings. You measure skirtings last because this involves adjustment to the wall finishes. Of course, you don't measure each room separately, but you save time by measuring all rooms of the same floor and ceiling finish together, all rooms with the same wall finish together and so on. Measuring internal finishings is not too full of snags, but it soon becomes very boring."

"We can only get the B.B.C. on ours."

"And what else can you measure from eighth-scale drawings?"

"Again assuming the information is there you can begin the brickwork above damp course. Here again we measure everything overall, ignoring windows and doors—good solid chunks of walls which require careful measuring because if you miss any you will eventually have to tell the architect to inform the client that his building will cost more than he told him. But if the drawings are well dimensioned, eighth-scale drawings are sufficient for the person measuring walls. Of course, he can measure internal walls and partitions, too, as long as he knows floor to ceiling heights and the materials to be used. This takes quite a time—there are a number of labours to be measured, particularly on block partitions, which can make the task tedious. These labours, incidentally, although we must measure them, are not priced very high by the builder, and many quantity surveyors would like to see the measuring of them dispensed with in a new standard method of measurement, but it is very unlikely that builders will agree with this for some years to come."

"What percentage of the bricklayer bill is the value of labour?"

"Ten, twelve, fifteen."

"Then couldn't builders add a suitable percentage to their rates for general brickwork to cover the cost of these items?"

"It would add a little more risk to pricing the bill, so they say no. You can't blame them."

"To return to measuring the brickwork. You have to watch out for the occasional wall with a fair face, I suppose."

"No. This is the worry of the man doing finishings. The chap measuring brickwork measures rough brickwork throughout. The same man will probably then 'go round again' and measure facings to external walls, but any fair-faced finish to walls inside the building is adjusted with the finishings."

"I don't think so. According to Mrs. Entwistle they always wanted two close together."

"I see now why quantity surveyors usually ask for three or four copies of the eighths. Now what about the foundations?"

"They are normally quite a big section, of course, and they involve a certain amount of fiddly measurements and adjustments. Due to changes in levels and differing sizes of walls and column bases, you rarely get a good clear run when you are measuring foundations. The standard method of measurement has foundation work pretty well tied up, and you must be constantly

Continued on page 498



## Conversation Piece

watching for trenches and bases that go below five feet deep and trenches that exceed six feet in width, or are dug next to roadways, to name some of the traps. It is certainly not advisable to begin work on the foundations before structural engineers' drawings arrive, because they give you positions and sizes and depths of column bases, which architects frequently show in a sort of indicative way in the hope that you will be able to measure something from them. But concrete and brickwork below ground are too expensive to take any liberties with. Most of us are prepared to treat little bits of joinery in a casual mood when accurate information is lacking, but we can't do the same with concrete. And information on foundations must be accurate first time—there is no worse section to rehash. When you dig a trench for a wall, you don't just dig it, you level and ram it and plank and strut it and then fill it all in again—this being the logical way to measure, the filling being deducted and 'cart away' added when you come to measure concrete and brickwork below ground. So a casual phone call from the architect, changing the line or depth of a trench after foundations have been measured, is not normally welcomed. There is a strong psychological side to quantity surveying which nobody outside the profession can appreciate. When you have spent painstaking hours getting something, as you feel, perfect, there is nothing worse than being told you must do it again. You feel like you do when you have just got the fire right and your mother-in-law comes along and pokes it her way and ruins it. Similar reactions are involved."

"I must try to remember that. Now tell me about doors and windows and plumbing and fittings."

"Doors and windows present little difficulty. You measure the door or the window first with its paint and glass and ironmongery, then its frame; finally, you adjust the opening—deduct brickwork and finishes, add the lintol, then measure finishes to head, reveals and threshold. A good deal of this work is usually repetitive, so schedules from the architect are always useful here. If you don't send us schedules of doors and windows we have to prepare them anyway and this may take days. A schedule of ironmongery, of course, always saves us hours of thumbing through catalogues. You would be surprised how often architects leave the choice of ironmongery to us. 'Just take the usual good quality BMA stuff. Anything else?' 'No.' 'How's it going?' 'Fine.' 'Monday week, remember, goodbye.' 'Goodbye.'"

"John was furious, but how was Mummy to know they were the coalboards."

"Sanitary plumbing? We usually can't start this until well on in the job, because it is the kind of section architects leave to the end. We certainly like schedules of sanitary fittings, if only because, like every schedule, they offer some proof that the architect has given thought to the subject. We normally measure fittings first, then their overflows and wastes and finally their services, and we measure the attendant builders' work as we go along. When you know the plumbing lay-out of a job you can get on with the drains. This is a section often given to an enterprising junior, as it is not the kind of work you normally make mistakes on. We usually measure manholes first, then trenches

and runs of drain between manholes and finally branches into drains and manholes with their gullies, holes through floor slabs, etc."

"And fittings?"

"Fittings are a problem. They usually entail hours of laborious work, because each fitting must be measured out in detail and kept separate. Even though we can measure numbers of identical fittings under one heading, fittings vary in size and shape so much that comparatively little repetition work is possible. Most quantity surveyors find fittings interesting to measure, but boring. It is not unusual, for instance, in a school to have one taker-off measuring fittings for two months."

"Is there no quicker way of measuring them?"

"The only alternative would be to number them, but a description comprehensive enough to put a price against would take the quantity surveyor as long as measuring the whole thing in detail. I personally think there is a good case for making fittings the subject of a P.C. Sum. Most builders these days sub-let their joinery to specialists, and these people would probably prefer to tender in competition on drawings and specification sent direct from the architect than to put a price against a couple of hundred pages of printed bill sent to them by the builder. Builders have, of course, been asking for fewer P.C. Sums because they claim that sub-letting work privately gives them better control over the job and reduces prices. But in the case of fittings this argument scarcely applies. The same difficulties incidentally crop up with cloakroom fittings in schools and public buildings. These used to be the subject of a P.C. Sum, but are now often measured in detail. This means that ironfounders are asked to price on written items (they probably get a copy of their section of the bill of quantities from two or three contractors, by the way) and they don't like it. They prefer drawings and specification."

"I agree. I heard of an architect the other day who thinks that by measuring out cloakroom fittings we increase the cost of the work by up to five per cent—a safety-first price, because ironfounders will not trust a bill of quantities in the way that they trust a drawing. We must change this."

"You and I can't change anything, Tony, but if we talk about it enough, change will come. Perhaps not in our lifetime, of course, but we must remember the children."

"And we must remember to remind our children to remember theirs."

"Which makes me think of the standard method of measurement. That's written from an entrenched position, if anything was. But we must not talk about builders now."

"As a matter of fact, I'm waiting for you to tell me when you want the half-inch and quarter-inch details."

"As soon as possible, naturally, but as I have said, we can do quite a lot with informative eighths. We need details chiefly for things like hollow-floor construction, roof construction, door frames, foundations and fittings, of course, but to be frank, a good sketch is often sufficient. However, I must not get you into bad ways. Have a cigarette."

"Gave it up when I left school, thank you!"

"Let's have a drink, then."

"John put a draught excluder on the lounge door last week and the chimney has smoked ever since. The only draught-free door in this house is the airing cupboard."

"Denise. Sherry, whisky or port?"

"Sherry, please, Tony."

"Mary?"



## NEWS

### Call for Scientific Plan for London Traffic

Only forceful Government intervention could save London from physical and economic disintegration over the next 15 to 20 years, it was stated at a press conference last week. The conference was called to hear about a report that was presented later the same day by a team of six engineers, architects and town planners to an all-party group of M.P.s who study traffic problems.

The team comprised Mr. J. A. Proudlove, a lecturer in civil engineering at Liverpool University; Mr. W. K. Smigielski, head of town planning at Leeds School of Architecture and Town Planning; Dr. G. Chadwick and Mr. F. D. Medhurst, of Manchester University; and Mr. P. Brigham and Mr. G. E. Latter, London architects.

Mr. Smigielski told the press conference that the car was becoming a destructive element in society, and that London would have to be rebuilt to cope with it. Professor Abercrombie's ring-road system in his 1944 plan would cause further congestion at the centre, and the latest L.C.C. scheme would also be ineffective. Traffic would have to be segregated and London would need two-tier trunk roads in the central areas. A long-term, scientific scheme was vital. At present production levels, nearly every family would own a car in 15 years' time.

The team, who shared £4,000 prize money in the recent Roads Campaign Council competition, suggested that a planning authority for south-east England responsible to Parliament with power to override local authority decisions should be set up to deal with the traffic problem. This authority should consist of a research team of town planners, architects, landscape artists, traffic engineers, sociologists and economists. The principle of a regional traffic authority could be applied to other large cities.

### Elevated Walkways Proposed

Motorists and pedestrians are segregated under a Brighton redevelopment scheme submitted by the Taylor Woodrow Group. The scheme, which involves the reconstruction of an 11-acre site between Grenville Place and Kings Road on the sea-front, is one of three redevelopment projects short-listed by Brighton Corporation and now being considered by the Royal Fine Art Commission.

The Taylor Woodrow proposals are for a large piazza with various buildings on three main levels. The walkways on the upper levels would be for pedestrians only. All parking and service roads to the buildings would be entirely separate and beneath them. After parking their cars, motorists would reach the pedestrian ways largely by staircases, although some ramps would be included. Underground parking is planned for 1,500 cars, and garages would be available for permanent residents. Architects and planning consultants are Russell Diplock Associates.

Another feature of the scheme is a sea-front block of flats of cruciform shape with a 27-storey tower which, with another tower block, would provide more than 350 flats in all (see picture).

### Middlesbrough Shops Scheme

The most extensive single piece of shop development ever carried out in Middlesbrough is planned by the Metropolitan Railway Surplus Lands Company, whose chairman is Sir Bernard Docker. It involves the demolition of most of the old property in Dundas street and the erection of "ultra-modern" shops and offices. The development is expected to provide between 20 and 30 new shops with a frontage of about 200 yards at an estimated cost approaching £1 million. The architects are Evans, Cartwright and Woollatt, of Nottingham.

### Trading Estate Wanted

Sunderland Corporation is seeking an amendment of the town development plan to enable 74 acres of the north bank of the River Wear, between Southwick and Castle-town, to be laid out as a trading estate. Alderman J. Hoy, chairman of the council's general purposes committee, said it was essential that they should get new industries into the town to offset lessened activity in shipbuilding. The site suggested—at Southwick—could provide work for about 2,000 men and 500 women.

### New Headquarters for Heinz

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has given outline planning permission to H. J. Heinz and Company for the development of a 65-acre site at Hayes Park, Middlesex. The company plans to erect a food research centre with administrative offices on the site. They will form the new Heinz headquarters in Britain. The total floor area will be more than 100,000 sq ft and the cost about £1 million when fully equipped. Not more than 1½ acres will be taken up by the buildings. A surrounding park, including woodland and pasture, will be preserved.

### A Warning from Uganda

The Uganda European Civil Servants' Association has written to the Institute of Registered Architects and the Institute of Quantity Surveyors advising their members not to accept employment in Uganda at the present time.

The letter says: "Until such time as our claim for a 15 per cent increase in salary is met, or until arrangements are made which will enable us to leave this country with some fair and just recompense for the service which we have given, we feel it is our duty to advise anyone against joining Her Majesty's Overseas Civil Service in Uganda".

Household budgets submitted by the association in support of its claim had shown deficits in almost every case, it is stated. As a result more than 70 per cent of British expatriate civil servants had to send their wives out to work to meet the high cost of living.

*A model of the Brighton project (story this page) showing the tower block of flats, a conference hall (right) and a second block of flats (left)*



## R.I.B.A. Notes

### Private Architects' New Commissions

The value of new work commissioned of private architects in the fourth quarter of 1959 increased substantially, being one-fifth greater than in the previous quarter, and more than 40 per cent greater than the value of work commissioned in the corresponding quarter of 1958. Private industrial building and offices and banks showed the most noticeable improvement. All regions of Great Britain shared in the increase in new commissions compared with a year earlier.

The most notable fluctuations were in the London and Middlesex, and Home Counties regions, where the figures dropped in the second quarter. The south-west region, too, dropped in the third quarter to almost level with the third quarter of 1958. In Scotland and Wales alone, the figures for the third quarter were lower than at any time in 1958. In contrast to the fluctuations in other regions, the Midlands maintained a fairly consistent level in the twenty to thirty million pound mark.

Copies of the results of this survey, showing the trends of new commissions in six regions of England and in Scotland and Wales (combined) have been sent to R.I.B.A. representatives on the Ministry of Works Regional Joint Committees.

More than 400 firms of private architects are now contributing regularly to this inquiry. In order to keep the sample up to date and representative of private practice as a whole, it is proposed to ask architects who are newly established in private practice since the inquiry was first started in 1958 (28 practices more) to join in. The opportunity will be taken to ask a few questions about the problems of the architect starting in practice on his own.

### Town Planning Examination Board

The Council has approved the suggestion by the Town Planning Joint Examination Board, to which the R.I.B.A. sends two representatives, that the Board should be dissolved as it seemed to have fulfilled its purpose of securing a uniform standard of qualification for planners. In the past three years only 13 candidates from other bodies had been connected with the Board; the other 466 candidates had all been connected with the Royal Town Planning Institute. It was therefore felt that all such examinations should in future be conducted by the R.T.P.I.

The constituent members of the Board were the R.I.B.A., the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Municipal Engineers, and the Royal Town Planning Institute.

This did not mean that the R.I.B.A. was giving up its interest in planning, said the president. The Board of Architectural Education would be looking into its own training scheme to improve training in town planning.

### Good Building Practice

The Secretary recalled that at the October 1959 meeting of the Council, a paper had been submitted setting out a joint statement of the presidents of the R.I.B.A., R.I.C.S. and N.F.B.T.E., on the Minister of Works' proposal for a "Council of Good Building Practice". This statement, which had been prepared at the invitation of the Minister, had reviewed a possible system for the proper collation and dissemination of technical information, and the contribution which could be made by each section of the industry. The statement concluded with an approximate estimate of the annual expenditure involved, amounting to £100,000. The Minister had now written to say that while some degree of financial support might be forthcoming from Government sources, it was unlikely that the full expenditure could be met. Nevertheless, the Minister had asked that the proposals submitted should be examined in

greater detail and had suggested that representatives of the three bodies should discuss the matter further with officials of his department.

### Small-House Prices

Some members of the R.I.B.A. Council are greatly concerned about the prices being charged by builders for houses built to winning designs in the Small Homes Competition. Builders were alleged to be "bumping up" the price and "cashing-in" on the chance of offering architect-designed houses to the public. The architect, however, was still only receiving the set fee.

It was explained that the object of the competition was to make these popular, inexpensive, architect-designed houses readily available to the public, so that people who would not normally consult an architect might have the benefit of his expert advice. Increased prices were contrary to the spirit of the competition, which was directed at getting more architect-designed houses constructed, whether ugly or not.

### Scale of Fees to Change?

The Council agreed that the whole problem of professional status and remuneration required urgent study, both in the official and private practising spheres, since the two were inter-related and any improvement in one would affect the other. The practice committee was considering the possibility of a differential scale related to different types of work in private practice.

### Board of Architectural Education

The Board of Architectural Education was approved as reconstituted, subject to the inclusion of one representative each from the Architectural Association and the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland. This brings the strength of the new Board up to 20 members (*list next week*).

### Competition by Tender

A report by the Competitions Committee on the so-called *Competition by Tender* is to be further considered by a special committee of representatives from the competitions, practice, and the design and planning committees as a matter of urgency.

### Coming Events

#### Corporation of London

Now until May 14, on weekdays, 10.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Exhibition of model and plans of the redevelopment of the Tower Hill Precinct. At South Court, Guildhall.

#### The Institution of Civil Engineers

April 26 at 5.30 p.m. "Design, fabrication and erection of the Ganga Bridge", S. G. Savarkar, S. Turley, J. Williams and R. J. C. Tweed.

#### The British Lighting Council

April 27 at 11 a.m. Lighting Conference for Architects. At the R.I.B.A.

April 25 to May 6, Monday to Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibition of photographs and models relating to the conference. At 16-18 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C.2.

#### Borough Polytechnic

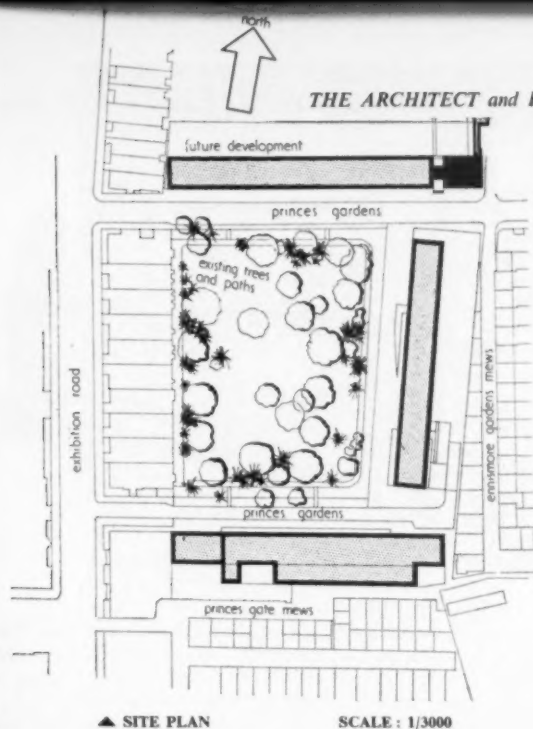
April 27 at 2.15 p.m. Modern Heating and Ventilating Problems for the Architect—"Domestic Radiant Heating", F. R. L. White, M.I.H.V.E., M.INST.F., M.AMER.SOC.H.V.E., of Brightside Heating and Engineering Co. Ltd. At the New Lecture Theatre, Borough Polytechnic, S.E.1.

#### Cement and Concrete Association

April 27 at 2.30 p.m. "Experiments on plastic jointing of the materials for concrete", H. H. Satterly, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E. At Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

#### The Building Centre

April 27 at 12.45 p.m. Film: Pyrodek roof construction. At 26 Store Street, W.C.1.



▲ SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1/3000

## WEEKS HALL, STUDENTS' HOSTEL IMPERIAL COLLEGE, LONDON

Architects: RICHARD SHEPPARD, ROBSON and PARTNERS

Quantity Surveyors: DAVIS, BELFIELD and EVEREST

Structural Engineers: CLARKE, NICHOLLS and MARCELL

Princes Gardens will eventually form a residential precinct for students from the Imperial College. In this article a completed part of this scheme, Weeks Hall (photo below), is described against the background of the ultimate development (see site plan left). Work on the remaining development is expected to start at the end of this year

**W**EEKS Hall must be viewed not as an isolated building but as the first completed part of a scheme to create a new student residential precinct. Princes Gardens is a large square adjacent to the east side of Exhibition Road and thus ideally related to the Imperial College of Science & Technology.

### Hostel Administration

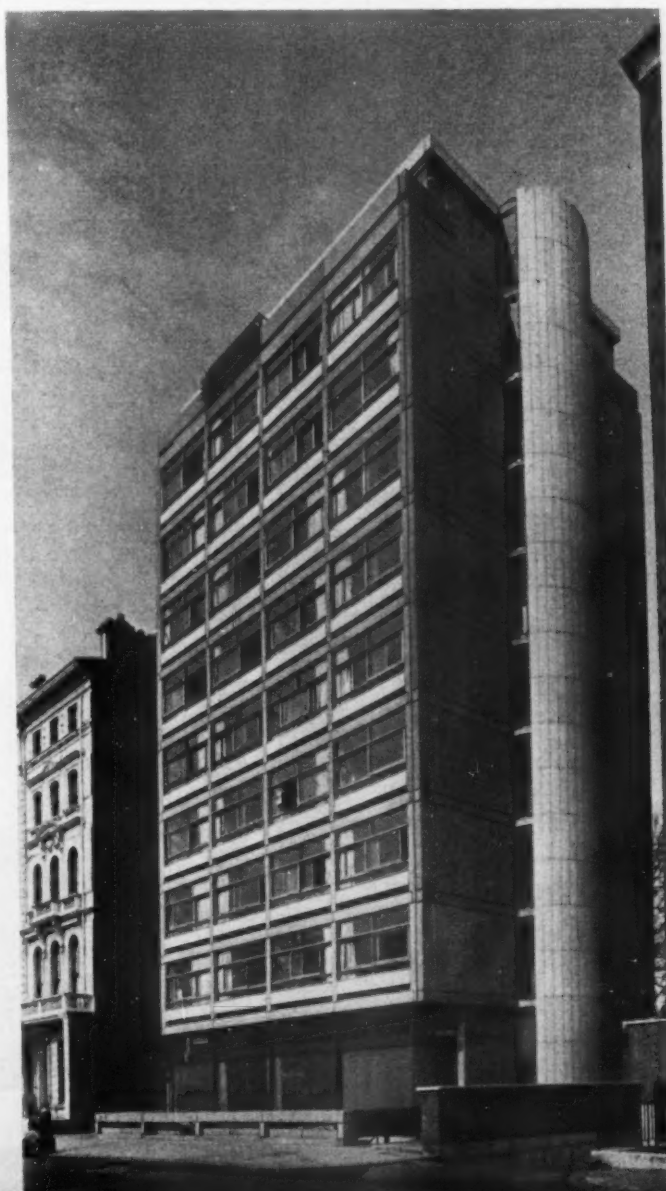
Administratively a hostel complex works best if the students are grouped in halls, each a separate entity of about 150 to 200 men under the control of a warden and a deputy warden. Weeks Hall is one such unit (rather a small one, 69 students are housed here) and the complete development will cater for about 1,400 men.

### The Overall Plan

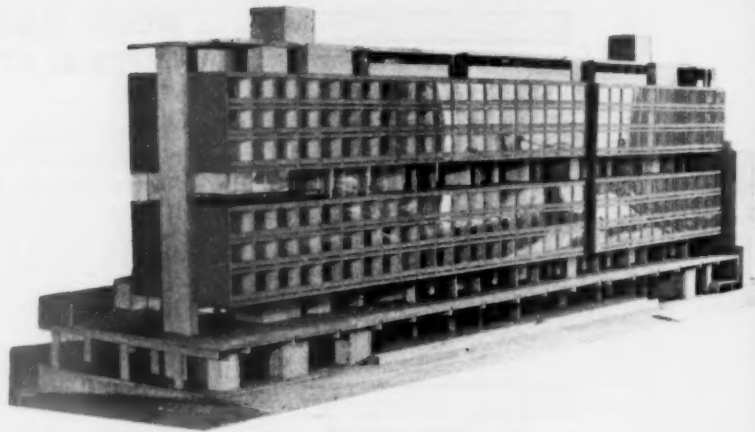
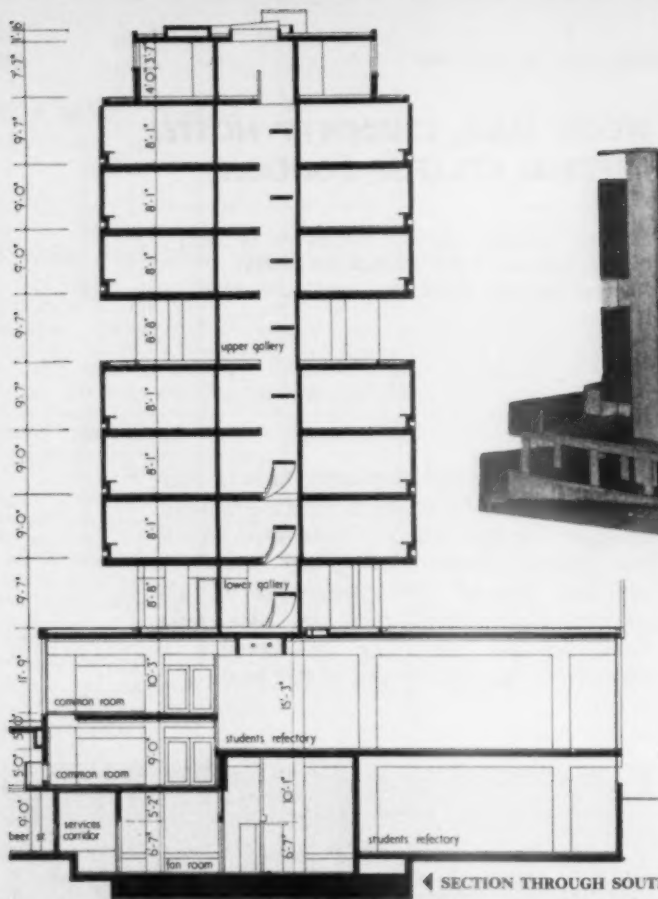
Generally throughout the scheme the halls are planned in horizontal layers, one floor of communal rooms being set under three floors of study bedrooms. Stairs are grouped along the communal floor, each one serving 24 study bedrooms, 8 per floor. This unit of 8 rooms forms a "set" with its own lavatory, bathroom and shower. The hall, therefore, is built up from the horizontal grouping of 3-storey stacks of "sets", each set connected by stairs to the social and recreational area which provide the point of entry to the hall.

The same levels are maintained for gallery floors on all three blocks; since the site falls about ten feet towards the south, the lower gallery floor on the south block is raised above the level of the square and in the spaces thus left have been placed the large common rooms, buttries, bars, refectories, kitchens, etc., which will serve the whole of the precinct. Tenders have been invited for this

Continued on page 503







A section and model of the proposed south block clearly expresses the horizontal stratification of the three storey stacks of "sets" with common, social and recreational areas at entry level. Weeks Hall, 1 reason of siting, is planned vertically, and will, therefore, have an individual character within the complete development (compare the perspective and photo Weeks Hall on the facing page). Below, a "mock-up" of the study bedroom, the basic cell which forms the body of the hostel. This study bedroom was the outcome of considerable research, several rooms being built and furnished in order to study user requirements.

SECTION THROUGH SOUTH BLOCK SCALE: 1 IN=20 FT







## WEEKS HALL

block; building should start in a month or two and be complete by the summer of 1962. The east and north blocks will be built in due course, the north block abutting the staircase hall of Weeks Hall.

The road along the north of the gardens is a through road leading to Ennismore Gardens, but the roads on east and south will be closed and the gardens extended to come up to the buildings, wide paved terraces affording pedestrian circulation. The mews road behind the south block provides service access to a delivery bay at the rear of the building serving the kitchens.

From the point of view of the student the precinct enables him to mix in the College community at a number of different levels. Complete privacy is possible in his study bedroom, but its place in a "set" of eight rooms will not allow him to feel isolated. Intercommunication between "sets" in the same hall is easy and the hall's own recreational facilities enable him to get to know everyone else who lives there. Inter-hall communication is equally possible, there being no rigid division which confines the student to his own hall, and the big refectories and common rooms on the

south side must perforce bring him into contact with students from all the other halls. Every attempt has been made in the planning of the scheme to encourage the student to extend his social experience, and to make possible a meaningful communal life.

### The Completed Hostel

Weeks Hall acts architecturally as a stop to the east end of the future north block and its planning is therefore vertical, in distinct contrast to the rest of the scheme. The large communal rooms are on the ground floor over which are placed eight floors of student accommodation topped by a penthouse flat for the warden. Each typical floor is an 8-room "set" served by lift and staircases.

### External Expression

The study bedroom floors are clad externally in precast concrete units faced with Cornish granite. These units are designed to form a fire break between floors, and they also emphasize architecturally the residential part of the building. The very clear idea of a cellular mass slung above a free area treated in a very open manner has been held in mind throughout the design of this building.

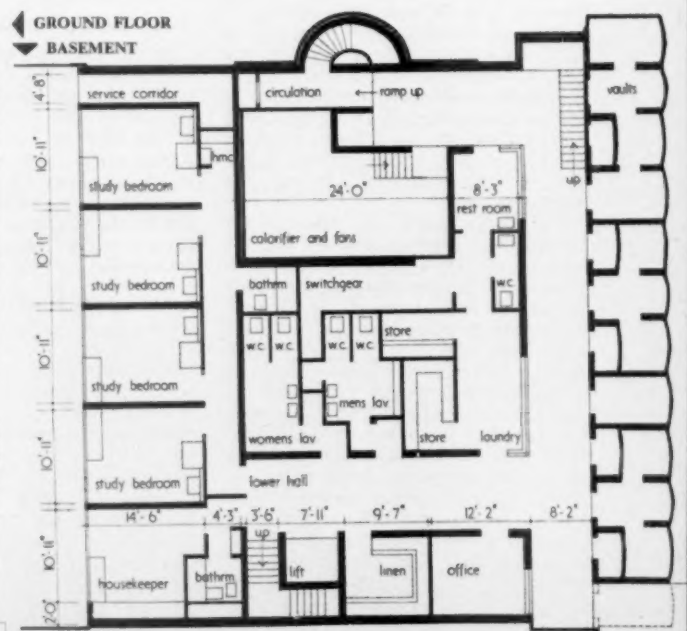
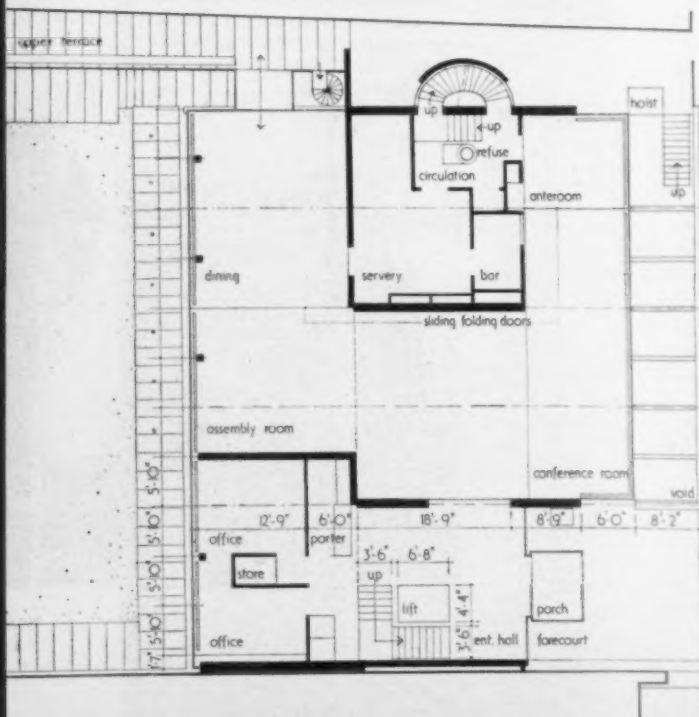
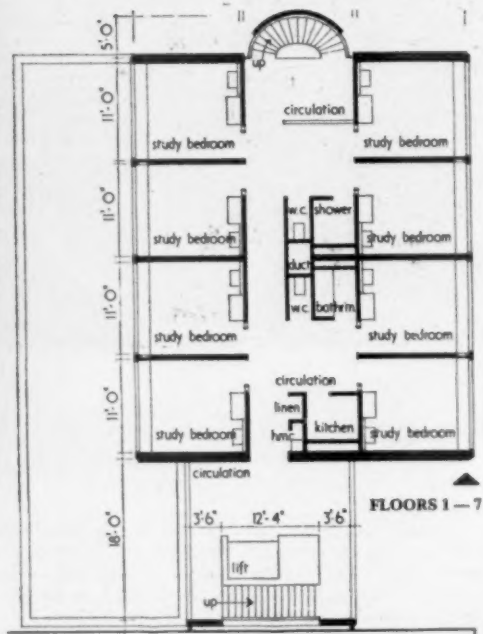
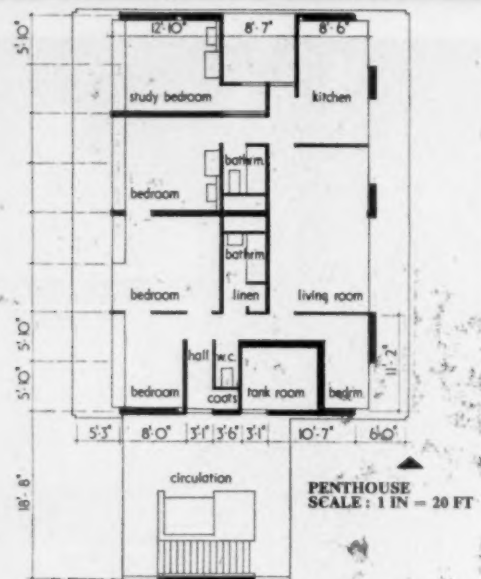
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*A perspective, above, shows the pedestrian precinct formed by enclosure of three sides of the square. A distinct architectural character arises from the contrast between the open nature of communal gallery floors, and the cellular nature of study bedrooms. An exception to this will be Weeks Hall seen, below, from an adjacent Mews*





On the north face common rooms and offices project at Princes Gardens level to form a plinth out of which the main slab of accommodation rises. A sunken court is formed from gardens of the demolished houses



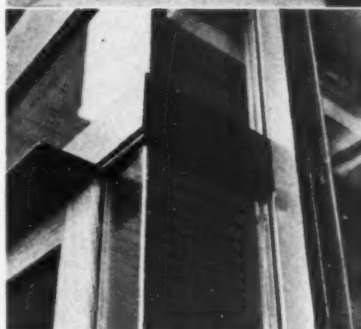
## WEEKS HALL

Above and below the study bedroom floors the massive structural walls with clear spaces of 23ft between them are left natural, kept simple in shape and free of all clutter so that their strength is clearly apparent from inside and outside. The timber shutters were carefully made and their patterns kept simple, so that the wall rather than the texture would be dominant.

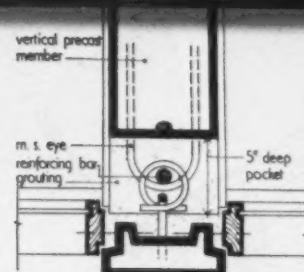
### Precast Work

Precast concrete units sit on the edge of the structural floor slab and the vertical units are notched into them above and below. There are no bronze cramps as in traditional cladding fixing. Units are profiled so that they restrain each other and bronze bolts or dowels key them into the structure. Insitu concrete flank walls have projecting nibs at floor levels on which the L-shaped horizontal units sit. The vertical units in turn rest on these and are prevented from falling outwards by the horizontal units on the floor above. Threaded sockets were left in the horizontal units so that they could be levelled by means of eye bolts

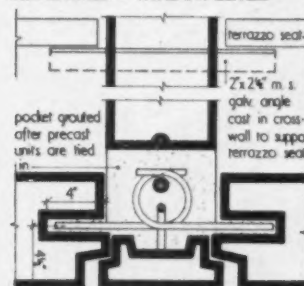
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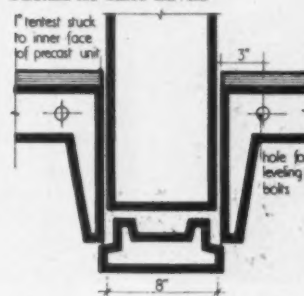
Below, a detail of the entrance porch. This glass and metal box within a transparent vertical circulation element, is in strong contrast to precast concrete work elsewhere (see also numerals incised in guard "rail" below). A corner detail of the porch at door head height is shown above. Top, an area adjoining the hostel is partially covered with concrete plant boxes disguising an otherwise uninteresting plan space (see shot taken from basement level, centre photo). Details shown right are of the main south facade. A heavy outline is used in these and successive details to express precast concrete sections



CROSSWALL — WINDOW LEVEL



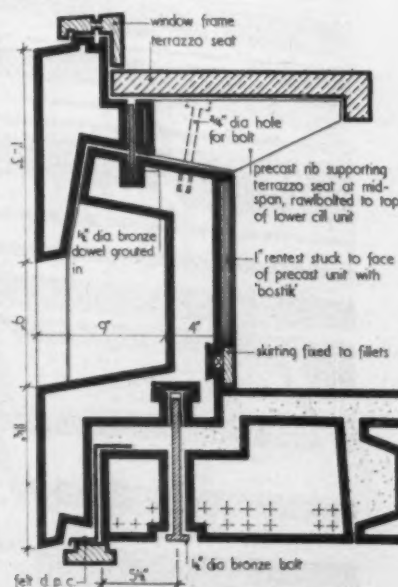
DETAIL AT SEAT LEVEL



DETAIL BELOW CILL



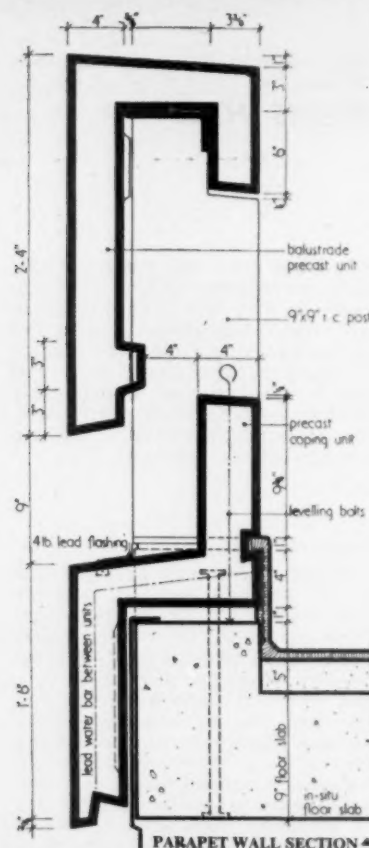
DETAIL SECTION THROUGH  
PRECAST CLADDING  
BELOW CILL LEVEL  
SEE PLAN DETAIL ABOVE  
SCALE: 1 IN = 1 FT



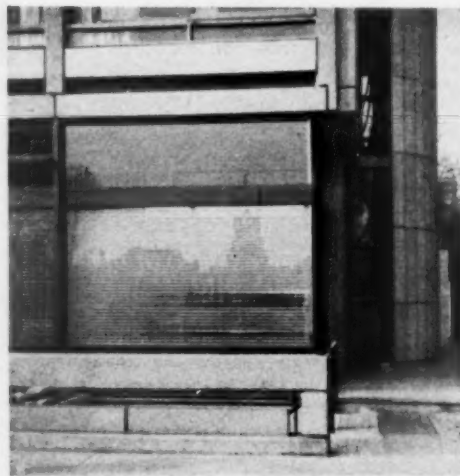




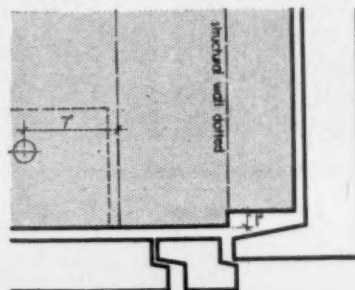
Two detail shots of the main Princes Gardens elevation. Design of the cladding units is interesting in that the horizontal cill units also form the 3' 0" high back-up wall necessary to meet fire regulations



PARAPET WALL SECTION ▲



A close-up of the south east corner illustrates careful detailing at a point where a number of elements come together. The distinct separation of precast concrete units in external expression is an outstanding feature of building. A plan section through cladding units at this corner is shown below





## WEEKS HALL

before grouting. When the grout was set bolts were removed and used again, the holes being filled.

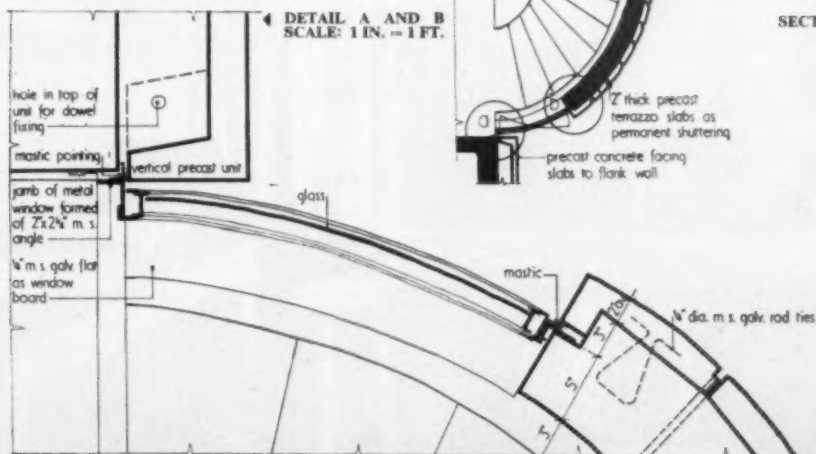
### The Study Bedroom Unit

The study bedrooms were the outcome of considerable research when several mock-up rooms were built and furnished in order to study user requirements. The Weeks Hall rooms have an 11ft frontage, 2ft wider than that envisaged for the rest of the scheme and this will help to emphasize the individual character of this hall within the complete development. A built-in wardrobe and washbasin is provided and a precast terrazzo window seat runs the full length of the window wall with a heater beneath it which blows warm air up through slots in the back of the seat. The window is in Burma teak oiled internally and left untreated externally. It has two large horizontally sliding sashes which do not run on rollers but slide on small strips of plastic with a low coefficient of friction. The walls and ceilings are plastered and painted generally white, and warmth is given to the room by the natural materials

*Continued on page 508*

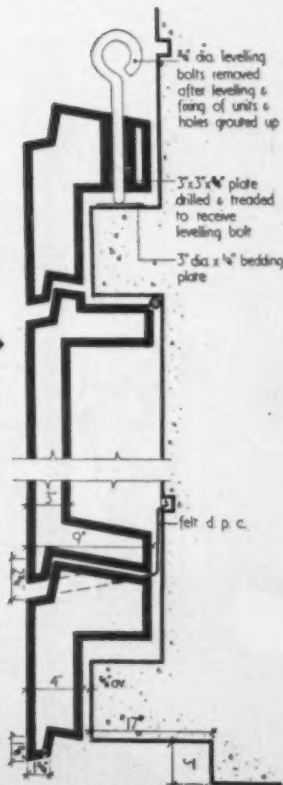


Right, the elliptical secondary staircase. This staircase has been used as a prototype for the internal "set" stairs of the main scheme yet to be built. Flights are precast and bolted to the *in situ* concrete landings, being separated from the enclosing curved wall. Soffit and sides of the stairs are smooth concrete while treads and risers are finished with rubber combines set in latex screed



4 TYPICAL PLAN OF SECONDARY STAIRCASE  
SCALE 1 IN. = 6 FT.

SECTION C-C



## WEEKS HALL

used, the cork floors, the teak windows and beech skirtings, doors and built-in cupboards.

### Common Rooms

The ground floor areas achieve warmth and intimacy by a generous use of natural timber. The low level ceiling slab which extends the space to the north has an acoustic lining held in position with 3in wide Columbian pine boards. The floor is of maple strip. The spaces flow into each other and sub-division is achieved with sliding folding doors, also faced with Columbian pine boards. The wall of the formal conference room on the south is similarly treated and heavy timber louvres concealing the plenum inlets and extracts are incorporated in it. Everywhere an attempt has been made to make the services integral with the building rather than applied to it.

### Services

The fire escape requirements called for two staircases, though for circulation one would have been ample, but

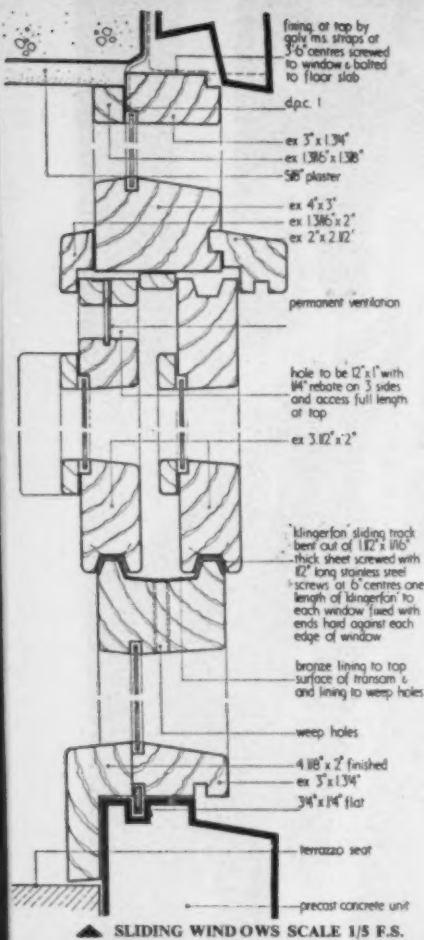
advantage was taken of this requirement, the secondary stair used here becoming a prototype for the internal "set" stairs of the main scheme. This stair is elliptical on plan and is pre-cast in flights and bolted to the *in situ* concrete landings. The soffit and sides are left in smooth concrete, and the treads and risers finished with rubber combines, set in latex screed. The stair is enclosed by a curved concrete wall kept 3in away, and lit by a slit window on each side.

The lift is contained in a steel case fixed in the main staircase well and is made of rolled steel sections and glazed with large sheets of polished wired plate glass. The car is faced internally and externally with ribbed aluminium and there are two observation windows. The stairs and landings are lit dramatically by vertical fluorescent tubes which rise through the well in an unbroken line from bottom to top.

### Background Information

The hostel was given to the College by Vickers Ltd., and named Weeks Hall after the Chairman of the Company, Lord Weeks, who retired in 1956. Work started on the site in September, 1958 and the building was opened by Lord Knollys on September 30, 1959.

A further view of the study bedroom "mock-up".  
Windows are detailed to the left

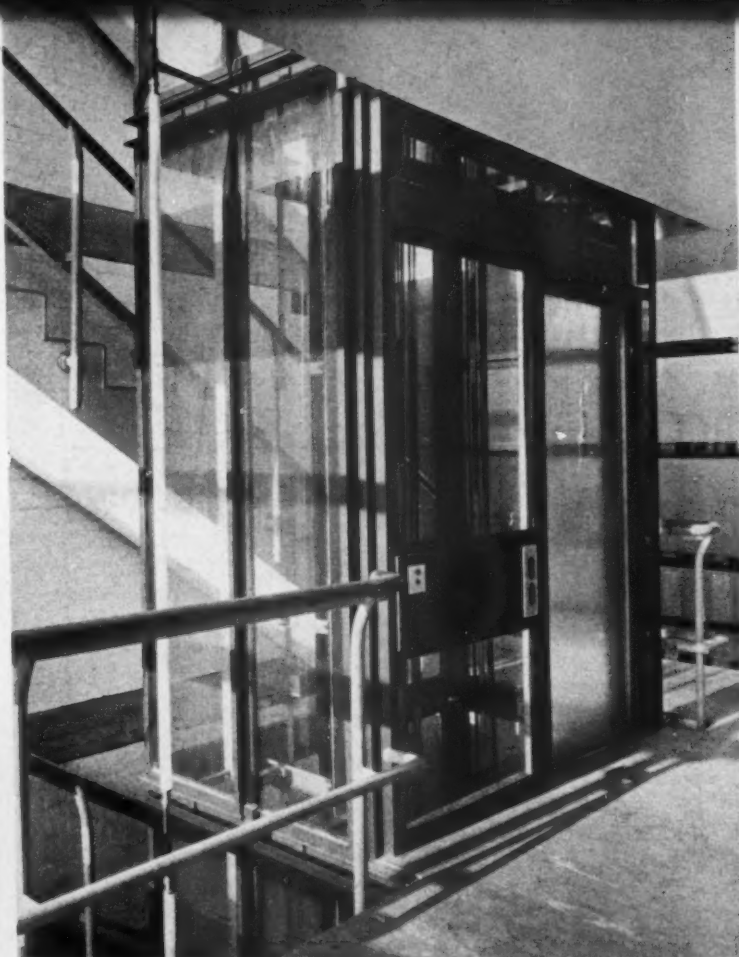
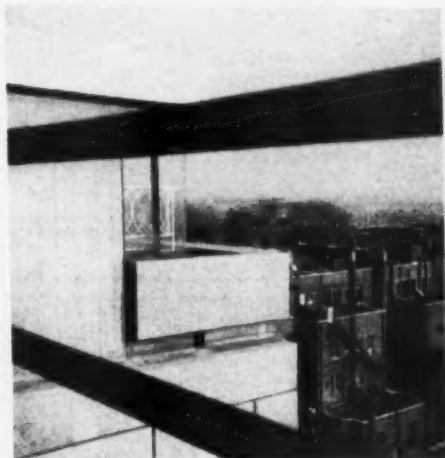


THE ARCHITECT and Building News,  
20 April 1960

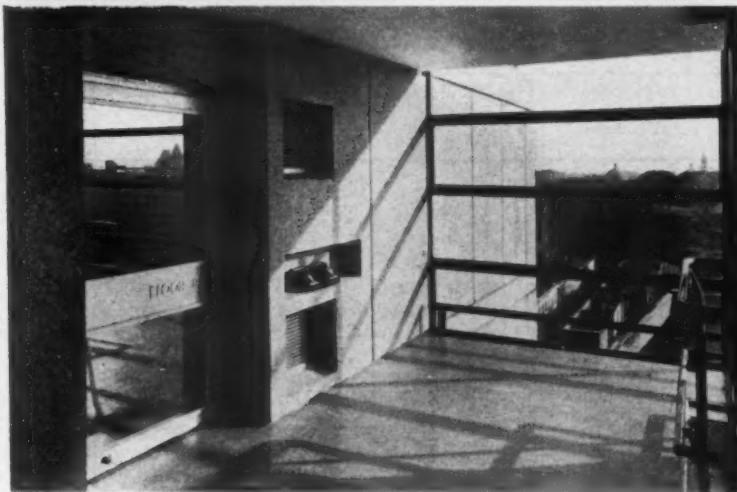
General Contractors : TERSONS

Sub-contractors and suppliers :

Acoustic Panels: Coronet Engineering Ltd. Balustrading: H. & C. Davis & Co. Ltd. Bricks: Pratt (Walsford) Ltd. Electrical: J. A. Brown & Partners Ltd. Fire Fighting Equipment: General Fire Appliances Co. Ltd. Hand Operated Hoist: Aldous & Campbell Ltd. Heating: Weatherfoil Ltd. Internal Telephone System: Siemens Edison Swan Ltd. Iron Spiral Stair, Bridge and Metal Balustrade: Haywards Ltd. Lifts: Express Lift Co. Ltd. Lift Enclosure: Morris Singer Co. Ltd. Limpet Spray: Turners Asbestos Cement Co. Ltd. Locks: A. G. Roberts Ltd. Metal Windows: James Gibbons Ltd. Planting: C. Russell Ltd. Piling: Cementation Co. Ltd. Precast Concrete Cladding and Stairs: Kendell's Stone & Paving Co. Ltd. Rubber Flooring: Haskell Robertson Ltd. Slate Plaque: Bow Slate and Enamel Co. Ltd. Sliding and Folding Doors: Esavian Ltd. Terrazzo Seat and Drawer: Malacarp Terrazzo Co. Ltd. Timber Windows and Wardrobes: Geo. Hammer & Co. Ltd.



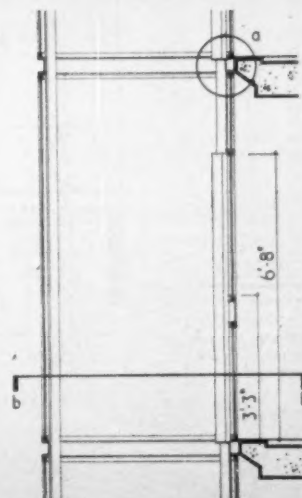
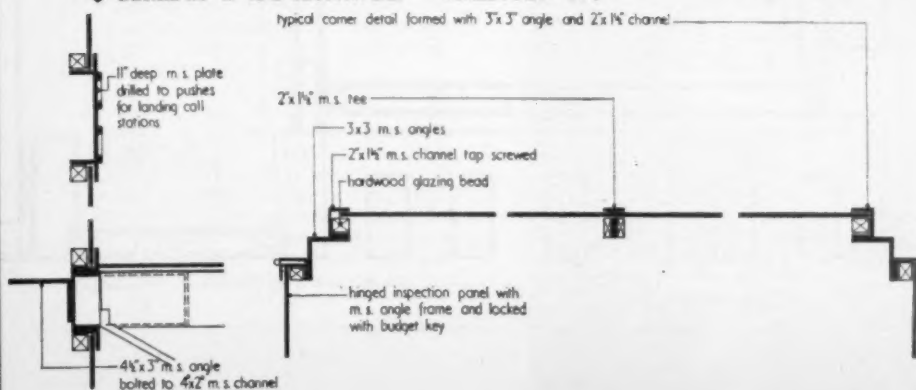
Top right, the lift is completely enclosed in glass, giving a particularly dramatic effect at night. Stairs and landings are lit by vertical fluorescent tubes which rise through the well in an unbroken line from bottom to top (see photo). Bottom right, one of the landing spaces. Above, a detail of the parapet at penthouse level seen from the staircase enclosure



#### DETAILS OF GLAZED LIFT ENCLOSURE

KEY SECTION SCALE: 1 IN = 4 FT

#### DETAIL AT 'A' AND SECTION B.B. SCALE: 1 IN = 1 FT





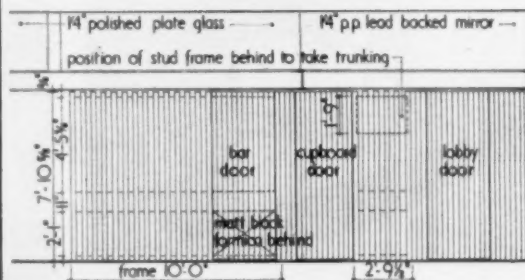
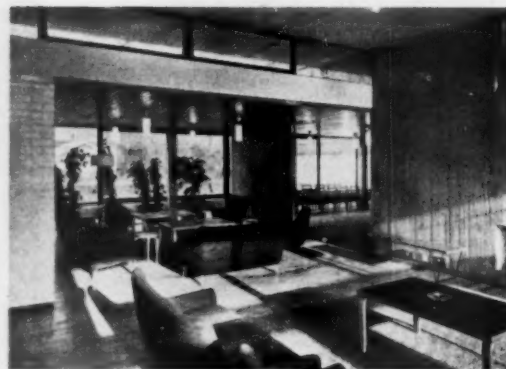
## WEEKS HALL

## COST ANALYSIS OF CONTRACT PRICES

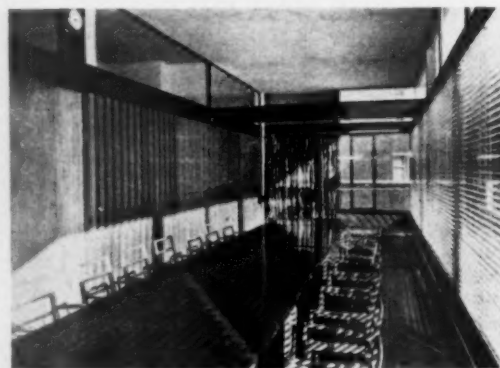
Tender date .. .. .	July 1958
Work started .. .. .	August 25th 1958
Work completed .. .. .	October 30th 1959
Tender price accepted .. .. .	£123,042
Highest tender price .. .. .	£140,429
Lowest tender price .. .. .	£123,042
Superficial area of building .. .. .	27,190 ft sq
Cube of building .. .. .	276,440 ft cu

	Total £	%	Per F.S. s. d.
<b>Foundations</b>			
Including excavation, piling, concrete, foundations and floor slab. It should be noted that this basement is constructed within an existing basement and therefore does not entail full excavation and tanking, etc. . . . .	8,445	6.9	6 2½
<b>Superstructure</b>			
Including floors, roof, staircases, external walls, precast concrete wall cladding, teak and metal windows, internal structural walls and partitions . . . . .	47,555	38.8	34 11½
<b>Finishes</b>			
Including roof finishes, internal finishes on walls and partitions, floor and ceilings and fittings . . . . .	20,738	16.8	15 3½
<b>Installations</b>			
Including electrical, hot and cold water, heating and ventilation, sanitary fittings, soil ventilation and waste pipes, lifts. It should be noted that the heating installation is connected to existing system . . . . .	32,398	26.2	23 9½
External works including drainage . . . . .	5,205	4.3	3 10
Works on site . . . . .	114	0.1	1
Preliminaries including contingency . . . . .	8,587	6.9	6 3½
<b>TOTALS</b> . . . . .	<b>123,042</b>		<b>90 6</b>

Total cost of job ..	£123,042
Cost per ft super ..	90s. 6d.
Cost per ft cube ..	8s. 10½d.



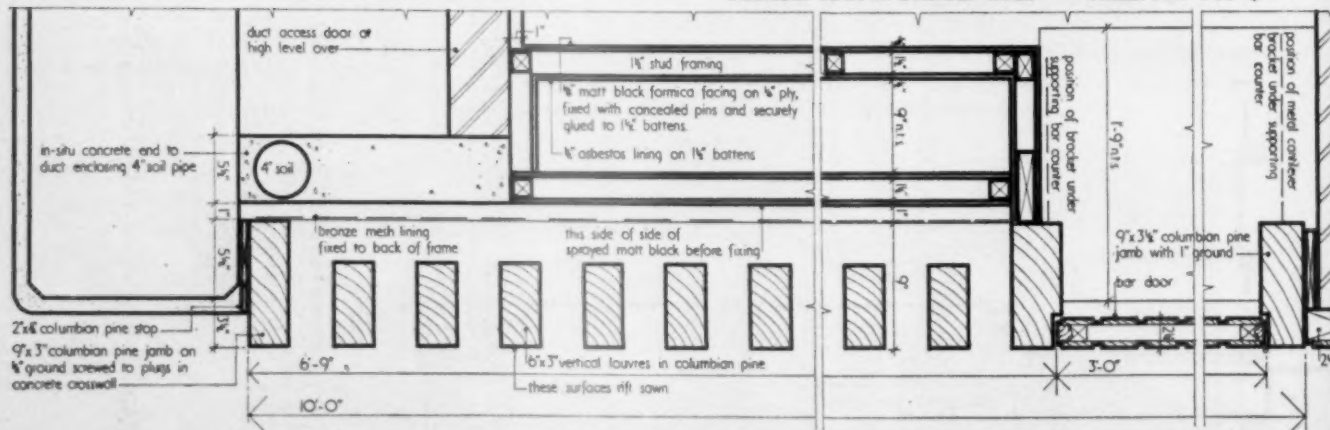
▲ ELEVATION OF BOARDED WALL IN CONFERENCE ROOM



Top, the assembly room with part of a dining room seen through sliding doors to the right. An atmosphere of warmth and intimacy is effected by the generous use of natural timber. The low level ceiling slab has an acoustic lining held in position by 3in wide Columbian pine boards, with sliding doors in the identical timber and a floor of maple strip. Right, conference room and anteroom. All these ground floor spaces flow into each other, division being achieved with sliding folding doors

DETAILED PLAN OF BOARDED WALL

SCALE: 1 IN = 1 FT ▼







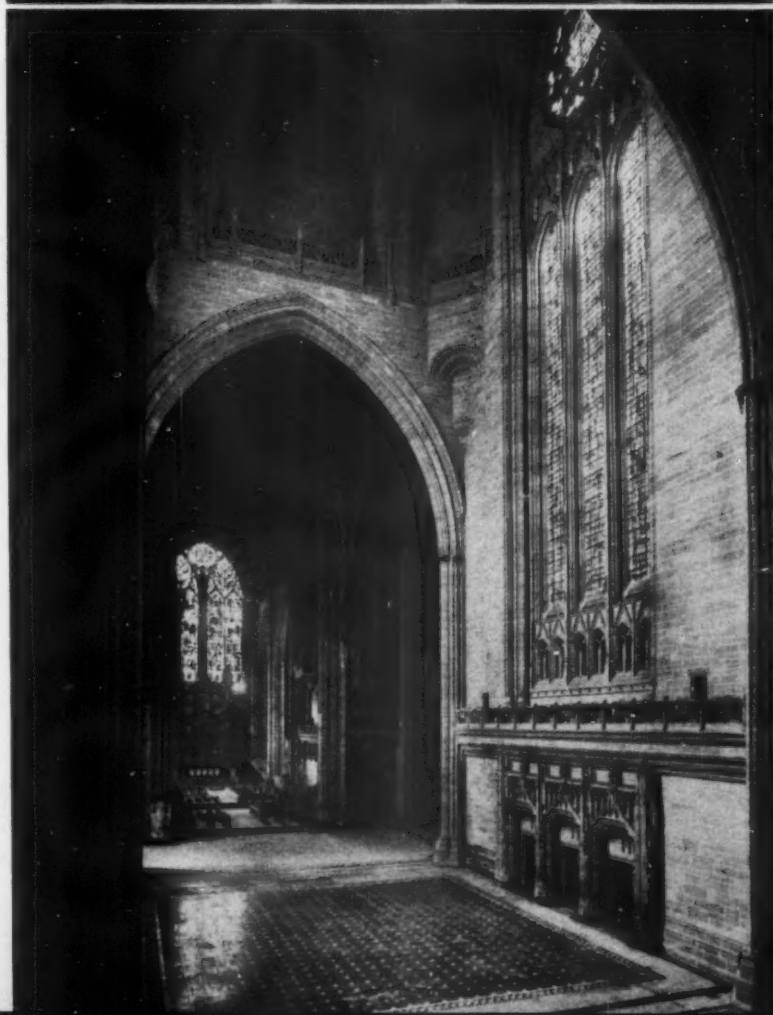
The late Sir Giles Gilbert Scott

## SIR GILES GILBERT SCOTT

*In this article Bryan Little writes an appreciation of the work of this well known architect illustrated with a cross section of his work. On the right, detail from Liverpool Cathedral*

IT is no longer aesthetically fashionable, in new works of architecture or structural engineering, to trick out one's building with references to any of the long succession of "historic" styles. Classical, Byzantine, Romanesque, Gothic, and Renaissance forms have alike to be ignored. Little effort is made, by way of substitute, to evolve new or distinctive architectural idioms; steel uprights, if clothed at all with any casing to make them something like pillars, must be simply and cylindrically sheathed so that they recall vertical rolls of linoleum or wallpaper. Deliberate ornament is restrained to the minimum; chromatic variations are almost more important, in this decade as for a few years past, than three-dimensional effects.

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott seemed, therefore, to have out-lived his generation, working on past the middle of this century, from its earliest years which were those of Arts and Crafts Gothic or Edwardian Baroque. To an assertive new school of designers he may often have seemed outmoded or out of date. He was, undoubtedly, among the last





Above, Liverpool Cathedral, Scott's first great commission designed in the Gothic style. Below, the Lady Chapel, a first phase of the building and one of the few parts of the cathedral which was built as originally planned



of the great traditionalists. Yet behind his "historic" decorative idioms one can readily look deeper and perceive in his widely varied work a noble assertion of the lasting canons of great architecture.

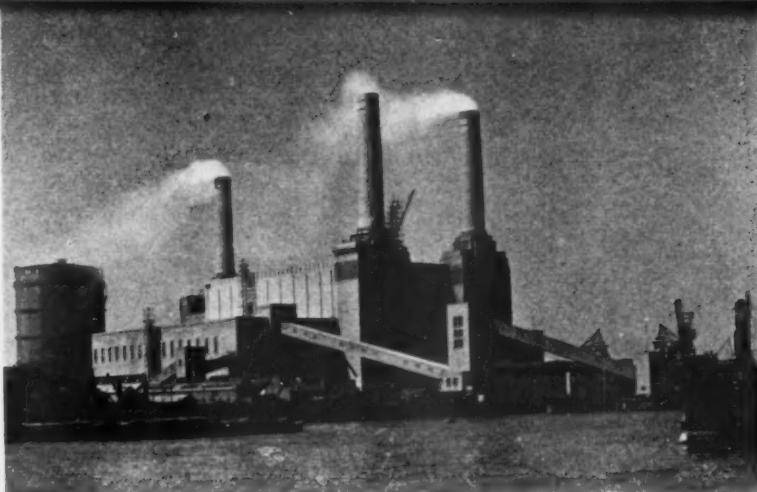
Though his grandfather, Sir Gilbert, was born early enough to start his career when the Georgian tradition was still alive, Scott really came of a dynasty of neo-Gothicists. As a young man he worked under Bodley. It was thus natural that he should, in his first years and all through his career, have been the exponent of a distinctively twentieth-century Gothicism. Gothic, of course, was not the only style in which he worked, and beneath such obviously Gothic achievements as Liverpool Cathedral and Ampleforth Abbey there lie basic elements of balance and symmetry which are alien to the haphazardly accumulated, asymmetrical structures of most genuinely medieval churches. His exquisite basilican Roman Catholic church of St. Alphege in the Oldfield Park area of Bath, and his Oxford College chapel at Lady Margaret Hall, both prove that he could work sensitively in Byzantine Romanesque. He built comparatively little, and on the whole less successfully, in the neo-Georgian idiom, though even here the "Adam" flavour which he gave to the Memorial Court at Clare College, Cambridge, a building whose main feature is almost Roman or Byzantine in its effect, is seemly and impressive. As a "contemporary" designer he was of less note. Yet his magnificent riverside composition at Battersea Power Station was a revelation in its time. The clean impressiveness of his beautifully grouped masses first opened London's eyes to the idea that a power station *could* be a monumental building. Scott's masterpiece at Battersea paved the way for many others, Bankside among them, which have followed it. It is, perhaps, the first and only British power station which has become the pictorial subject of popular Christmas cards.

Scott was supremely fortunate in his first great commission. For Liverpool Cathedral, once modified down to its final design, at once established him in the front rank of his calling, and he never really surpassed it. The great building was started when Scott was a young man, and was unfinished at his death. Yet Scott, unlike most medieval Gothic designers, in the end knew that his great project would all be carried out along the lines he himself had originally laid down. The genesis of Liverpool Cathedral is worth considering for an understanding of its architect's own early history.

The plans first made by Bodley and Scott together, in a historic competition which had Bodley himself and Norman Shaw among its preliminary selectors, were for a cathedral very much unlike the one which now towers above the grimy Grecian



**SIR GILES  
GILBERT SCOTT**



Top, Battersea Power Station. Above, the War Memorial for Clare College, Cambridge, one of Scott's buildings designed in the neo-Georgian style. Below, the chapel for Charterhouse School; the interior of this is shown on the top left. Bottom, St. Andrew's Church, Luton, and left, the nave of Downside Abbey







Above, the University Library, Cambridge, which many people believe to be one of Scott's most successful neo-georgian buildings



Above, a corner of the interior of the Guildhall, which Scott recently restored  
Below, the Bodleian Library, Oxford



cemetery on St. James's Mount. It would have had two flanking towers to recall Exeter, a low western tower, and four sets of shallow transepts (three of them off its nave) like those seen in the eastern limb at York. Its Gothic, as benefited Bodley, was far more "conventional" and antiquarian than what Scott actually erected when left to his own devices. It would have been a fine, monumental, but rather unexciting building. Its Lady Chapel alone, started first and built while the main designs were being revised, was actually built as planned, a lovely creation with vaulting and other decoration of an almost Spanish Gothic stamp. Then Scott gradually emerged as the sole architect of the main building. After Bodley's death the originally approved plans were virtually scrapped. Scott's cathedral was more the brain child of 1909-1910 than a conception of 1902; its Gothic, with strong Spanish or even "Manoeline" touches in some of its detail, is the "Arts and Crafts" Gothic of such early twentieth-century designers as Caroë and Leonard Stokes. It is what one associates with Scott in most of his other Gothic work, with that extra sure confidence of touch which made it more distinctively his own. It cannot be placed in any century but ours, and it is as clearly of its particular period as was the seventeenth-century Gothic of Oxford or that of Batty Langley and the Georgian "Romanticks". At Liverpool, moreover, it has been rendered on so monumental a scale, with colossal cross arches, massive external buttresses, huge windows, and the dominating mass of the great central tower, that it cannot help giving a deeply spiritual impression of challenging grandeur. The cathedral at Liverpool, like the sturdy design for the Benedictine Abbey at Ampleworth, is a "balanced" building with its tower placed half way along its length; in this respect, as has been pointed out over Liverpool, one may think of both churches as classic concepts in a Gothic dress.

At times, however, Scott was required by the conditions he found to be more "antiquarian" in his approach. His restoration jobs at Guildhall and in the House of Commons did, indeed, bring elements to those buildings which had not been there before; one thinks, in particular, of the new cross arches at Guildhall. Both buildings are full of good and and fairly distinctive craftsmanship, yet they are not among his most happy works. Far better, and much less well known than it deserves to be, is the lovely, still unfinished nave which Scott added in the 1920's to the half-built church of Downside Abbey; the great southern tower, in the Somerset tradition of the surrounding countryside, is also his work. The nave is a little chilly in the wholly uncoloured lightness of its



stonework, but nonetheless is extremely beautiful in its version of late fourteenth-century Perpendicular. The eastern limb had been built already, in strictly traditional Gothic, by Bodley's erstwhile partner, Thomas Gardner. So here if anywhere, as Professor Pevsner has pointed out, there was a modern excuse for building in period forms. The chance was brilliantly taken, and Downside Abbey, after Bentley's Westminster Cathedral, is almost certainly the finest church in England of the Communion to which Giles Gilbert Scott belonged.

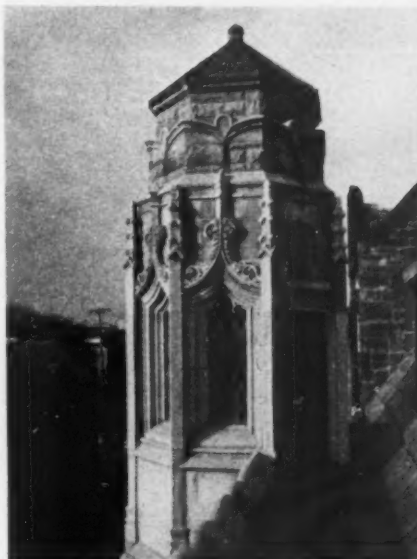
The nave of Downside is used to accommodate the boys of the school. A public school chapel of more normally "collegiate" layout, extremely successful and impressive with its dramatic sequence of cross arches and more typically twentieth-century Gothic detail, was built by Scott, in the 1930's which were so prolific a period for him, at Charterhouse. Cross arches of great nobility, with imposing buttresses to sustain them, are a notable feature in some others among Scott's churches. They occur, for example, most dramatically over the nave of St. Andrew's at Luton, and in the recently completed church of the Carmelites in Church Street, Kensington. By way of variety, St. Alban's, Golders Green has a heavy, dominatingly grouped central tower of even greater importance, for the design as a whole, than the one at Liverpool.

Scott's Byzantine we have noticed. In his Georgian detail, especially when applied to buildings of obviously "modern" composition like the new Bodleian or the splendidly useful University Library at Cambridge, he was evidently below his best. One is left with the subtly shallow arches of his graceful Waterloo Bridge, and with a few buildings in which, at various dates in his career after the first World War, Scott aimed at giving a "contemporary" impression.

The Battersea and Bankside Power Stations are the most famous, and generally speaking the best, of these "commercial" buildings by Scott. He was not a prolific designer of blocks of flats or offices, or for that matter of houses. An important office building is Electricity House in the centre of Bristol, a building combining both offices and showrooms, with shoplike downstairs windows for display. The site is triangular, and the block is adapted to that shape, a little ponderously perhaps and with less grace than some architects could have achieved, but in general, very effectively, and with masonry of an almost Lutyens magnificence. If a little heavy in feeling, it is none the less an authoritative terminal to a narrow vista which demands some monumental feature at its top end. Electricity House, I feel, will be considered a good building long after one has stopped noticing others near it which are much more recent.



### SIR GILES GILBERT SCOTT



*Top, the Carmelite Church in Kensington, which contains an excellent example of cross arches sustained by imposing buttresses. Above, one of the turrets of Toronto College Chapel and right, a detail of one of the upper stacks of the Bodleian Library. Below, St. Michael's Church, Ashford, which was also recently completed*





SIR GILES GILBERT SCOTT



Top, Chester House, Clarendon Place, Scott's own home. Above, Electricity House in Bristol, and below, Waterloo Bridge, one of Scott's designs aimed at giving a contemporary expression

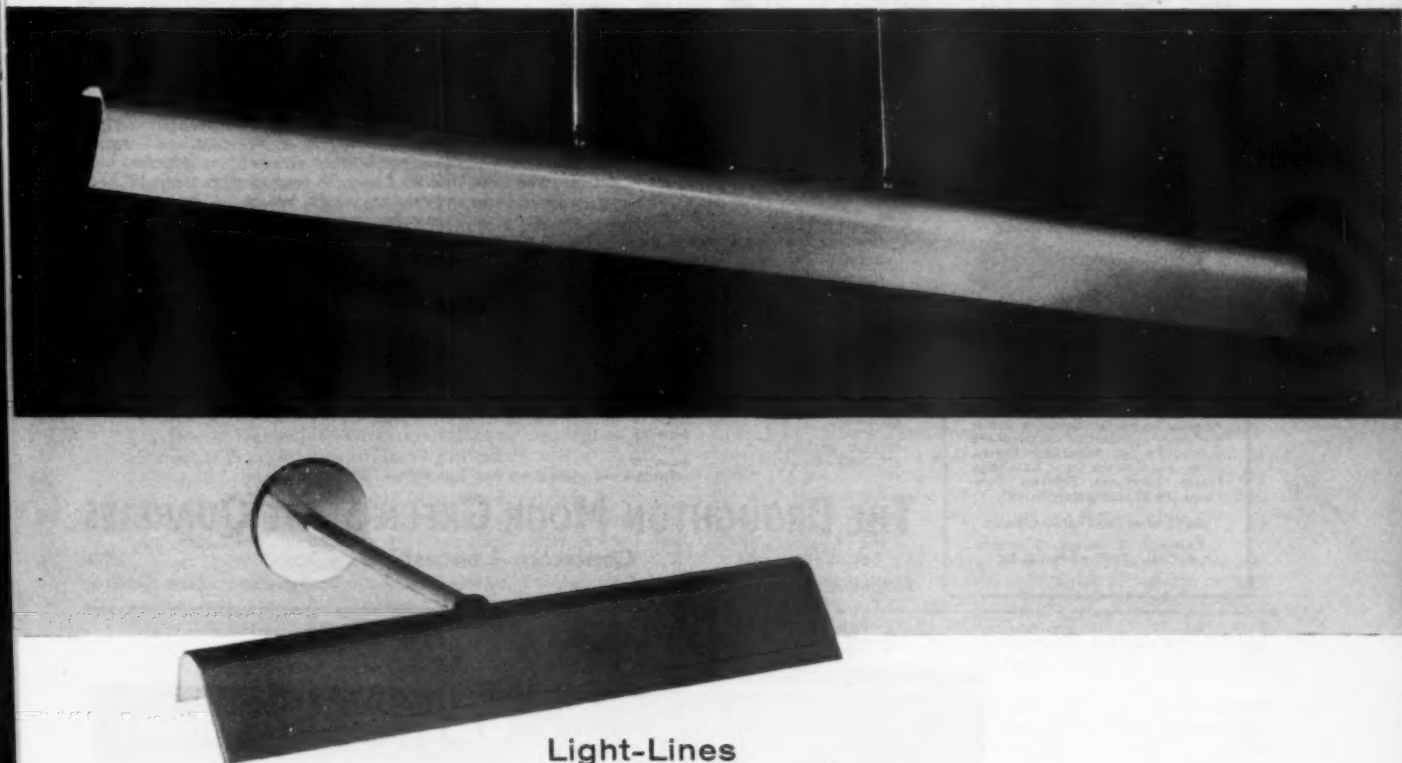
A great and significant thing about Scott's buildings is that they are so widely admired and liked, and that the architectural layman so often realizes, instinctively and without much analysis, that here is work of fine quality by a man who thought deeply about his work, who could design greatly, and who knew architecture from end to end. Sir Giles Gilbert Scott was an architect with architecture deep in his blood, a man who could give us real grandeur and depth, along with a fine ability to handle his load-bearing masses of stone or brick. One sees this capacity for composition, both in large commissions like Liverpool or the Cambridge library and in smaller churches like his exquisitely schemed one at Terriers, above High Wycombe. He was not unworthy to stand in the great sequence of the mediaeval master masons, of Wren, his own family forbears, Bodley, and Lutyens. He was, as I have remarked, among the last of the great "traditionalists", and it is hard to see how we shall again witness the likes of him. To some of his buildings he could give a profoundly spiritual touch. I well remember, how late in January of this year, I had occasion to spend the first daylight hours of one particular day in various parts of Liverpool. From point after point, along streets and over the rooftops of new stores and office blocks, the great tower of Scott's cathedral, octagonal and decked, in north country manner, with modest pinnacles, would close a vista or create a view. In the grey half light and in the early dawn of that wet winter morning it would beckon mystically, and with so strong a draw that one almost had to go along to see what lay below that commanding mass; only the fact that I had recently viewed the cathedral with some thoroughness confined me, once-up the hill from the centre of the city, to a visit to Lutyens' noble Roman Catholic crypt. But the pull of that obviously significant tower was astonishingly strong. To how many contemporary architects' work can one safely ascribe so appealing a magnetism?

BRYAN LITTLE.



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## LEGAL COMMENTARY

## New Enforcement Procedure

*Control arrangements in the Caravan Bill discussed by F. H. B. Layfield*

FOR a good many years past there have been numerous criticisms of the law concerning the enforcement of planning control. Most of these criticisms have centred round enforcement notices, and in the last two years the adverse comments of High Court Judges have been added to the chorus; the two most recent Lord Chief Justices being among the critics. There have been three main complaints about the general procedure involved.

The first major criticism has come mainly from local authorities and was succinctly described by Sir Keith Joseph in the House of Commons. "At the moment, there is a dual system of resisting an enforcement notice—that is to say, by way of planning application to the local authority, followed by an appeal to the Minister, and simultaneously a right of appeal to the magistrates' court, and so on, up the system of courts.

"In disingenuous hands, this dual system, as all Members have agreed, has led to a very great deal of abuse."\* The dual system then is the first cause of complaint.

The second, and in some ways more serious criticism, is that law concerning the form, content and validity of enforcement notices is exceedingly technical and difficult. The courts themselves have on numerous occasions complained of the obscurity of many provisions in the 1947 Act. They have found them very difficult to construe, indeed so much so that over a period of years important decisions upon these matters have been reversed and then re-reversed. Mr. Desmond Heap has perhaps best summarized the general legal confusion by freely illustrating his articles on this subject with quotations from Alice in Wonderland\*.

The third and last major criticism has been of the numerous gaps in the law concerned. So, for example, it has been possible to obey a notice which required "discontinuance" of a use by stopping the use for a short while and then a little later resuming it. At the latter stage the whole process had to begin over again; this position arose largely because the Act was silent upon what was the position once the use had stopped in compliance with a notice.

The *Caravan Sites and Control of Development Bill* attempts in some degree or another to deal with all these major criticisms of enforcement procedure. Part I of the Bill, which is the most publicised part, is concerned with the licensing and management of caravan sites. Part II is almost completely concerned with enforcement.

In place of the dual system for challenging enforcement notices which has operated hitherto, the Bill is designed "to provide for a single remedy which will enable all points of the enforcement notice, whether on the validity of the notice or the planning merits of the case, to be determined at the same time and in one place"\*.

This aim is achieved by providing an appeal in all cases to the Minister of Housing (and *only* to the Minister) by anyone having an interest in the land affected by the notice. The grounds on which the notice may be challenged are that:—

- (1) Planning permission ought to be granted for the development complained of;
- (2) Permission for the development concerned has already been granted;
- (3) Permission was not required for the development in question;
- (4) Any relevant conditions or limitations imposed on the grant of permission concerned have been complied with;
- (5) What the notice assumes to have been done did not constitute development at all;
- (6) The notice was not served within four years of the offending development being carried out;

\* Hansard, March 24, 1960.

(7) The requirements of the notice exceed what is needed to restore the land to its state before the development concerned was carried out;

(8) The requirements of the notice exceed what is necessary to secure compliance with the conditions or limitations imposed on the grant of the relevant planning permission;

(9) The period set out in the notice in which specified steps must be taken is shorter than is reasonable.

Once an appeal on any of these grounds has been started the notice is not to be effective until the *final* determination or withdrawal of the appeal.

The word *final* is of particular importance in this context since either of the parties to the appeal, or any other person on whom the notice was served, may appeal to the High Court against the Minister's decision on a point of law.

The Minister himself is given power to quash the notice, or vary its terms in favour of the appellant, to extend the date on which it is to become operative, or give such other directions as are needed to give effect to his decision. He is specifically given power to award costs against any of the parties.

The Minister is also given power at any stage in these proceedings himself to state a special case on a question of law. On a case stated which has been requested either by the appellant or by the Minister, the issue may be taken from the High Court to the Court of Appeal, but only by leave of either Court.

The Bill, then, provides a single system of appeal and thus clearly meets the first complaint about the present arrangements. The second complaint is less certainly tackled. Large parts of sections 23 and 24 of the 1947 Act, which have given rise to much difficulty, remain unrepealed. Some attempt seems to have been made to improve the position by one sub-clause.

In this connection the Bill provides that on an appeal against a notice the Minister "may correct any informality, defect or error in the enforcement notice if he is satisfied that the informality, defect or error is not a *material* one". What exactly will be the effect of this provision, if it remains in its present form, is not easy to say but it is doubtful if it will go very far. On the present showing it rather looks as though enforcement law may remain something of a jungle.

The Bill also closes some of the gaps in the present procedure. At present when there has been compliance with a notice, that is to say when the owner or occupier has done what the notice requires, then the notice is in most cases regarded in law as dead. The present Bill proposes that compliance shall *not* discharge the notice, and, if the offending use is resumed or the works of buildings replaced, the original notice will apply to them as it did to the preceding development.

The Bill stops up another gap when it makes additional provision for failure to comply with the requirements of an enforcement notice. "As the law stands at present" the Minister observed in the Second Reading debate "failure to comply with an enforcement notice which requires a use of land to be discontinued constitutes an offence, but there is no similar provision with present law regarding enforcement notices which require the removal or alteration of buildings which have been erected, or perhaps works which have been carried out without planning permission. Or it may be in breach of the conditions attaching to a planning permission."

It is true that the 1947 Act empowers the local planning authority in certain circumstances to enter on the land and carry out the demolition itself or make the necessary altera-

*Continued overleaf*

## LIBRARY NOTES

**A History of Modern Architecture**  
by Jurgen Joedicke. Translated from the German by  
James C. Palmes. The Architectural Press. 45s.

UNTIL now the student of architecture has had to rely on relatively few works for information about the growth of the kind of architecture which interests him most. There are J. M. Richards' *Introduction to Modern Architecture*, the last chapters of Nikolaus Pevsner's *Outline of European Architecture* and a few more expensive publications, such as the latter's *Pioneers of Modern Design* (in which architecture forms only a small part), Professor Hitchcock's monumental survey in the Pelican History of Art and, of course, the original writings of Le Corbusier, Frank Lloyd Wright and Gropius. Now at last, the gap has almost been filled. I say almost, because as each year passes and as each new building of importance is erected, the gap must inevitably widen, until this work, like Charles Eastlake's *History of the Gothic Revival*, becomes a source for historical study itself; becomes in fact, significant because it will tell the student of the future what the student of today thought important. This is true of all books which set out to bring history up to date, but it is nevertheless well that the effort should be made.

Professor Joedicke has, with the superlative aid of the publishers and James Palmes as translator, given us a most valuable guide to the whole story of modern architecture up to the time of writing. It is a remarkably clever piece of book-planning, in which illustrations and text are combined to produce, in effect, two parallel works. For the superficial reader, the story is told by pictures and captions, and for the more serious student a slightly fuller explanation is contained in the adjoining text.

The approach is objective, and the work is neatly classified under convenient headings. Only time will tell whether the categories are correct. Frank Lloyd Wright has been relegated to the category of pioneers, while Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe and Gropius remain as the masters. The contribution of England to the story of the twentieth century, though not that of the nineteenth, seems abysmally small. It begins with the Bexhill Pavilion and ends with the Festival of Britain. The erstwhile

masters, Sir Howard Robertson, Thomas Tait, Sir Edwin Lutyens and the rest find no place in this story. That may be proper, though Robertson and Tait are, I think, worthy of mention. Indeed, if one is going to criticize this superlatively fine book, it must be on the purely parochial grounds that it does not seem to recognize any development in England since 1951. Professor Joedicke may be excused by virtue of his nationality, but Mr. Palmes as his translator might have suggested to him that there is in England today a new generation, and that there is here and now some modern architecture worthy of inclusion. He could have sent Professor Joedicke a passport to Pimlico.

CECIL STEWART.

**The Sculpture of the Parthenon**  
by P. E. Corbett. Penguin Books Ltd. 5s.

WHAT I really want in books of this kind has been rationed too strictly here, presumably by space. It is the diligent and conscientious probing of historians and art critics that digs up the motives of the artists. The arm is raised to strike or to shield. The critic, in telling us which, not only draws our closer attention to the design. He raises the vital issue—that resolution of storytelling and artistic construction which is the basis of art; and similarly the basis of architecture, where the synthesis is one of function and beauty, purpose and expression, or what you will. Sculpture and architecture have this in common, that both must be convincing; conviction can only arise out of this resolution, this synthesis. It is easier perhaps to assess in sculpture than in architecture. The sculptor, once decided on the pose (striking or shielding) is compelled to place feet, limbs and torso in those positions which confirm the action. The spaces formed by the limbs and torsos, variations of simple triangles, squares and (often) pentagons, are elements of composition. Heads are the climax of the action. They stick out as knobs; the direction of their glance controls the emotion and completes the story.

Mr. Corbett's too-brief analysis is telling and, I think, correct. It leads him, as to the Metopes which are generally two-figure compositions in nearly full relief, to sensible conclusions on the differences between individual sculptors, who stood on or beyond the threshold of a century of the greatest sculpture achievement yet. Shall we last a century?

Continued on p. 519

## New Enforcement Procedure

Continued from p. 517

tions. Thereafter it can recover the costs involved from the owner. Such a course is, however, stiff with hazards and few local authorities have cared to face the risks involved in such action.

To meet this position the Bill stipulates that such failure to comply with the terms of a notice shall be an offence just as at present is the failure to discontinue a use. A penalty of £100 is specified for the initial offence with an additional penalty of £20 for each day on which the offence is continued after first conviction. Penalties for existing offences are also increased.

Most of the remaining provisions of Part II of the Bill deal with minor points of varying importance. There may be expected to be numerous changes made in the detailed text of the Bill in its journey through Parliament, but it is unlikely that its general lines will be seriously altered. So it is safe to say that the scheme set out in the Bill will govern enforcement procedure in the future.

Few are likely to regret the loss of the old arrangements which are anything but satisfactory. Clearly the new system

is a great improvement. How well it will work is difficult to say at this juncture. Perhaps the most serious criticism now, and one likely to be repeated in the future, is that the opportunity has not been taken to repeat sections 23 and 24 of the 1947 Act in their entirety. It would then have been possible to create a new method of enforcement. The Ministry may yet regret they did not do this.

The new appeals under this proposed procedure are likely to prove more difficult to conduct and will certainly raise more difficult issues than most of the Ministry inspectors have to contend with at present. Some tricky questions of inquiry procedure are also sure to become apparent at an early date. All these considerations make two further things important. Clearly, some well-thought-out guidance upon the way in which these enforcement inquiries are to be handled should be available from the Ministry as soon as this Bill becomes an Act. Also the Lord Chancellor stated early last summer that he proposed to ask the Council on Tribunals to make a set of rules to govern inquiries.

No more has yet been heard of these rules, but the new Bill makes their production a more urgent matter. Unless some fairly firm rules do become effective when these enforcement inquiries begin, some trenchant comments may be forthcoming on the hearing of the first appeal against the Minister's findings to the High Court.



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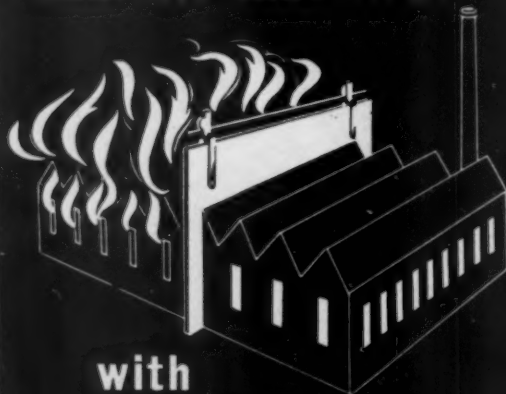
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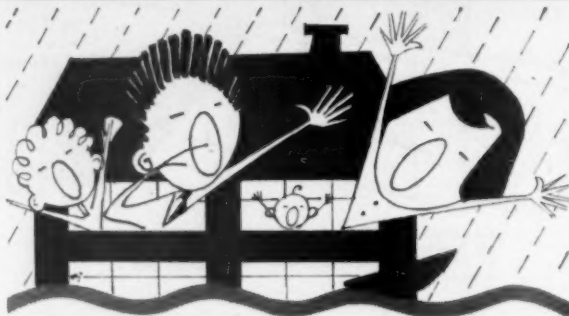
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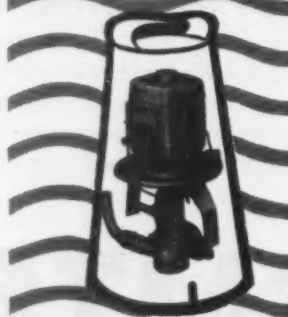
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## LIBRARY NOTES (continued)

Continued from p. 518

The frieze might perhaps have been more clearly described in its major rhythms and its culmination over the east entrance. Two processions, it seems, started out back to back from the southwest (the least obtrusive) corner and moved, fast or slow, round to the centre at the east where the "peplos", Athena's robe annually renewed, is handed to a priestess. In this conception, sufficiently homogeneous to be attributable to one man, Pheidias must have been concerned not only with the procession itself, full of incident, but also with the planned approach to the temple, first experienced from the Propylaea, then along the north side. The placing of the sculpture where it could be seen with difficulty and at a steep angle, and the people for whom it was intended, must have been constantly in his mind. Who was supposed to see the south frieze, when and why?

How did this, the most complex and sophisticated form of art, bas-relief, reach a sudden perfection? The answer may be in Pheidias himself, great designer as well as great sculptor, the Raphael of his day gathering together and fixing, on a new level, the technique and aspirations of his immediate predecessors. The studies for it could only be wonderful; they do not, of course, exist. The illusion of perspective is supplied by our vision: all the figures, horses and vehicles, are elevational as they are with Piero della Francesca, who confined his delight in perspective to objects. Mr. Corbett's few paragraphs on these general aspects of design, admirable as they are, could be greatly expanded without the faintest threat of boredom.

The pounding rhythms of the horses and riders of the frieze (based on repetition of the same right angle, or sometimes an open angle) are part of our own life. Yet individual fragments from the Pediments are still grander sculptural images. There is only room here to refer to Mr. Corbett's concise and convincing analysis and to add that this booklet is obviously worth more than a gallon of high octane petrol and a halfpenny's change. The illustrations are clear but, inevitably, rather too small.

There remains the eternal riddle of coloured sculpture. Until only a short while ago I accepted the conventional view that this was an inexplicable aberration of taste. Since then a sensitive visitor to Athens has spoken of the beauty of the coloured fragments there. Why not?

JAMES CUBITT.

## Art and Architecture in Spain and Portugal and Their American Dominions, 1500-1800

by George Kubler and Martin Soria. Penguin Books Ltd. 70s.

THE period covered by this book started, both in Spain and Portugal, with the prolonged tail end of Gothic, so much so that the earliest churches in the Americas are original and not revivalist Gothic buildings. But on this phase Prof. Kubler, the author of the architectural section (his colleague being responsible for sculpture and painting) says little. Both authors are in the main concerned with the varied Iberian interpretations of the Renaissance style, with Baroque and with Rococo, and to a lesser extent with neoclassicism, a movement largely emanating from the Academia de San Fernando at Madrid, imposed by the royal decrees of the latter Spanish Bourbons, and clearly regretted by both authors. Prof. Soria, for example, sees in its staidly grammatical manifestations (among them the Prado) the "killing of invention" and the artificial stifling of the architectural and sculptural beauties which had luxuriated fantastically, not only at home in Spain and Portugal, but all the way, in varied eighteenth-century idioms, from the outer provinces of

Mexico to the village churches near the mines of Potosí along the Andean shores of Lake Titicaca.

A volume on such ambitious lines as this "Pelican" has to omit a great deal, and in order to leave as little as possible unsaid its approach must needs, at times, be a little laboured and inventorial. Yet it remains a work of the utmost value, by far the most helpful book on its vast subject for any reader in this country who needs to get a reasonably clear idea on what really was achieved by the Iberian and colonial artists of these three centuries. Prof. Soria's long section on painting is less relevant than the other two portions of the book for architectural readers; in any case that ground (always excepting the vast, mainly mediocre corpus of colonial painting) is comparatively well covered elsewhere. The sections which have more concerned me are those on architecture and carving, the latter, in large measure, being architectural in character and much of it consisting of such essentially architectural compositions as Baroque and Rococo altarpieces.

## Spanish Gothic

Spanish Gothic, already elaborate in its decorative effects, moved on in the sixteenth century to *plateresco*, a style whose name shows how much it relied on applied decorative techniques essentially those of the silversmith. Amid all this not very satisfactory decoration the Renaissance orders first made their way into Spanish architecture. There followed, in both Iberian countries and in the earliest colonial architecture, a short phase when the dominant taste was that of the "humanist" architecture of the Italian Renaissance. Humanism, however, was soon displaced in Spain by the severe, dogmatic, tensile Mannerism of the Counter-Reformation. Once the Escorial and the *Lonja* at Seville had been built it was only spasmodical, and in the eighteenth century in and near Madrid under the court patronage of the Franco-Italian Bourbon Royal House, that Italian motivation had much to say in Iberian and colonial art; exceptions like the façade of St. Francisco at Bogotá are due to the occasional presence in the Americas of Italian designers, while the Flemish prints of the Antwerp school, as one sees in the brilliant choir stalls of the 1620's at Lima Cathedral, were a greater decorative influence than anything from the Italian fountainhead of Renaissance and Baroque. So Iberian Baroque and Rococo went their own, not always very tasteful but most sumptuous way. One might even, in Spain itself, get the coming back of a few South American constructional touches, while in the sculpture of the colonies oriental idioms and facial expressions made their way to Spanish America via the galleons which sailed annually from Manila to the Mexican port of Acapulco.

All this, and much more, is well set out by the authors, whose photographs, plans, and sectional drawings are a magnificent addition to their text, and whose full notation of their work gives us both additional information and tantalizing pointers to further study. The "colonial" sections are, to my mind, the most valuable in the book. Spain and Portugal are already reasonably familiar, and they are not too hard to visit anew. The Americas are, however, a far more remote proposition for us Europeans; we "Anglo-Saxons" may find it valuable, and chastening to realize how far architecture and town planning had gone in Brazil and the Spanish viceroyalties at a time when Virginia and New England were hardly past log cabins and weather-boarded cottages. The authors take us, in sequence, from the West Indies and New Spain (Mexico) through Central America (in colonial times the great Captaincy General of Guatemala), to the various subsections of the viceroyalty of Peru. Chile, Argentina, and Paraguay, be it noted, are comparatively (though not absolutely) poor in their colonial buildings and carving. All over these vast territories the losses of the originally founded buildings, thanks to frequent earthquakes, were appallingly severe. The dire Lisbon experience of 1755 was no rarity in certain parts of the Indies, and, both in Guatemala and Peru, choice of materials and constructional technique were alike conditioned by this

Continued on p. 520

## LIBRARY NOTES (continued)

Continued from p. 519

danger. Stylistically speaking the various phases of Spanish architecture at home were, by and large, repeated in the Americas, though a local school of much force and originality arose in the district of the old Inca capital at Cuzco. Spanish regionalisms, particularly that of Andalusia, whence many of the colonists came, and from whose ports of Seville and Cadiz they nearly all sailed, found their echoes in the colonies. Though Indians and *mestizos* were trained as architects and carvers they worked, in the main, in the styles imported from Europe. In sculpture, however, Prof. Soria notes certain "Indian" qualities of gentleness, and he makes the important social point that the sufferings and oppression of the conquered peoples found their outlet in the tormented, lacerated figures of the dying or dead Christ which became a main element in colonial "folk art". In Brazil, undulant nave walls and façades combined with sculptured stonework sent out from Portugal to make up the startlingly brilliant achievement of Brazilian Baroque. Its greatest exponent, both a sculptor and an architect, was the mulatto known as *Aleijadinho*. Brazil has remained a country of easy racial mixing, and one wonders if this colonial master's great achievement may be said to anticipate, in a logical sequence, the striking excellence of architecture in the multi-racial Brazil of today.

BRYAN LITTLE.

### Proceedings of a Symposium on the Strength of Concrete Structures, London, May, 1956

Published by The Cement &amp; Concrete Association. £5.

IN May, 1956, there was a symposium organized by the Cement and Concrete Association in conjunction with the joint Committee of Structural Concrete.

The object of this symposium was to attempt to get together the most up-to-date knowledge of the strength of concrete and concrete structures, both reinforced and prestressed.

This book is a collection of the proceedings of the symposium, and includes, together with the seventeen papers presented, the discussions that took place on each of the papers.

The book is divided into five parts corresponding to sessions during which groups of papers were presented.

Not unnaturally, before one can design a concrete structure, it is necessary to know the loads to which the structure will be subjected, and the probability of the materials being up to specification. This subject is discussed in the first three papers, corresponding to the first session.

The papers in the next three sessions discuss the ultimate strength of various types of structure under different types of loading. Needless to say nearly all the examples of structures that have been tested come from research organizations. A number come from universities, but it is only when one sees a collection such as this that one realizes the vast amount of research work done by the Cement and Concrete Association, all of which is of great practical value to practising engineers.

The last session is devoted to how codes of practice can incorporate the knowledge to date on ultimate design of concrete structures.

Whilst this book is not everyone's cup of tea, it is an extremely useful record of the present state of development in ultimate design methods. Obviously there are contained in it many differences of opinion between various engineers and it would be dangerous if inexperienced engineers were to take everything said as a final answer on this subject.

R. A. SEFTON JENKINS.

## Play Parks

by Lady Allen of Hurtwood. The Housing Centre. 2s 6d.

THIS is a small, but very well illustrated pamphlet, which shows how our playgrounds can be brought to life and made more interesting than the streets. Lady Allen has, for many years, been the chief protagonist of adventure playgrounds and largely as a result of her efforts there are now a growing number in very successful operation in this country. In this booklet, she is off on another tack—the Scandinavian Play Park.

The essential difference between a play park and an ordinary playground is that, in a play park, the presence of a whole-time play leader makes it possible to have a great variety of movable equipment. The play leader is described as a kind of playground host and it is his, or her job, to see that the children have a good time. They are, in fact, councillors and friends of the children and their parents. And presumably, in their spare time, they see that the children do not steal or break the equipment.

This equipment can include croquet sets, golf, table tennis, jumping poles, stilts, high jump apparatus, balls, table games, such as chess, draughts, dominoes, played on outdoor tables. And the children can also work at carpentry, clay modelling and painting.

Best of all, after the sandpit, is a large weatherproof chest, full of wooden building blocks of different shapes and sizes, and up to 4ft long. The children collect the blocks in special wheeled trucks and cart them off to different parts of the playground to build houses. They also cart them back and pack them away.

Lady Allen's booklet contains a full description of all these and many other activities and deals in a most practical way with the problems of running such a playground. It is to be hoped that it will lead to the establishment of many play parks. They are badly needed. There are slight, but encouraging signs that our educational authorities, both at Ministry and Local Government level, are at last waking up to the undoubted educational fact, that it is cheaper and more effective to spend money on playgrounds and youth centres, than on reform schools.

GORDON LOGIE.

## Books Received

*Architects Standard Catalogue 1960-1962*. Published by The Standard Catalogue Co. Ltd. Price £7 10s. This fourteenth edition comprises five cloth-bound volumes, giving information on building products and services available. Volume 1 contains full indices to provide quick access to information on products, services, manufacturers' names and addresses, brands, general technical editorial and the National Capacity Register of Builders and Contractors. Volumes 2, 3, 4 and 5 are divided into 68 numbered trade sections, each containing detailed indices and technical editorial, followed by prefilled catalogue information on the products available from manufacturers or specialists.

*Kempe's Engineers Year-Book 1960*. Published by Morgan Bros. (Publishers) Ltd. Price 87s 6d. This sixty-fifth edition has been edited under the direction of the editor of *The Engineer*, and is divided into two volumes. Most of the 84 chapters include a bibliography giving a list of standard works on the subject and a comprehensive index makes reference quick and easy.

*Surveying*, by A. Bannister and S. Raymond. Published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons Ltd. Price 45s. This book has been written bearing in mind the needs of students reading for the professional examinations. It is a concise text-book and provides a direct approach to the basic problems involved in the various branches of surveying. It is fully illustrated with photographs, diagrams and tables.



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## Industrial Notes

● More than 500 gas central heating units for private and municipal houses were ordered in the area served by the North Western Gas Board in the three months ended December last. The majority of these were gas fanned warm air installations in which the air is warmed by a central gas heater and ducted into several rooms through wall grilles.

● A new 16mm sound/colour film "Accent on Mechanical Handling" has recently been produced. This is based upon sequences taken at recent Mechanical Handling Exhibitions and depicts one or more examples of each of the various classes of mechanical handling equipment. Action shots are provided of many exhibits in operation. The film is available free on loan from *Mechanical Handling*, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London S.E.1.

● The Hull branch of British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. now has two telephone numbers—Hull 24470 and 28367.

● The first year book of The National Federation of Plastering Contractors has just been published. The book includes a report on the mechanization of plastering work, an account of the work and activities of the N.F.P.C. and a complete list of

members in each regional area. Copies of the book can be obtained from the Federated Employers Press Ltd., 82 New Cavendish Street, London W.1. Price 3s (including postage).

● A dual carriage-way by-pass on the Great North Road at Brotherton near Pontefract, Yorkshire, is to be constructed by Harbour and General Works Ltd. of Gateshead, at a contract price of £486,203. This by-pass will have two 24ft wide carriageways, separated by a 15ft wide central reservation, with 12ft verges.

● The factory-made packaged Escalator and the Paternoster are to be introduced into this country by Marryat & Scott Ltd., lift manufacturers of Hounslow, who have an agreement with Eggers-Kehrhaan of Hamburg for the sale, installation and service of these machines. Lifts are not included in the agreement and the present Marryat-Scott range will remain unchanged.

● Hattersley (Ormskirk) Ltd. have appointed Markland Scowcroft Ltd. of Bromley Cross, near Bolton, as stockists of the Hattersley range of gun-metal and cast-iron valves.

● A new company, Berger Traffic Marking Ltd., has been formed in association with Lewis Berger & Sons

Ltd., to provide a specialist service for traffic marking of all descriptions. It will operate from Berger House, Berkeley Square, London W.1 (telephone: Mayfair 9171).

● Richard Costain Ltd. have made the following new appointments: Mr. B. K. Clancy, managing director of Richard Costain (Civil Engineering) Ltd.; Mr. P. Lederer, managing director of Richard Costain (Construction) Ltd.; Mr. J. B. Parrett, chairman and Mr. C. Hammersley, managing director of Westminster Plant Co. Ltd.; Mr. J. F. Robinson, and Mr. J. P. Sowden, joint managing directors of Richard Costain (Associates) Ltd.; Mr. P. Loveday, managing director of Richard Costain (Projects) Ltd.; and Mr. E. G. Lewis, managing director of Costain Property Investments Ltd.

● The board of Gardiner, Sons & Co. Ltd. have recommended a final dividend for 1959 of 3 per cent less tax. This makes a total distribution for the year of 5 per cent, less tax, compared with a total of 6½ per cent, less tax, and a tax free distribution of 1½ per cent for 1958.

● Union Carbide International Co. have issued a new, revised 28-page booklet of their available products. This contains, in addition, a complete list of Union Carbide's affiliated overseas companies and a list of distributors.

● The Ministry of Aviation has placed an order with E.M.I. Electronics Ltd. for what is believed to be the first permanent industrial colour TV installation in the U.K. One of the company's closed circuit colour camera channels has already been exported to China for use in the largest hospital in Peking.

● Flexpipe Ltd., a company of the Bowater Organisation, has become a member of the Pitch Fibre Association of Great Britain.

● Holland & Hannen and Cubitts (Great Britain) Ltd. are to construct a new four storey extension to the present premises of Woolland Brothers Ltd., in Knightsbridge, at a cost of £142,000. Architect: Michael Brashier F.R.I.B.A.

● The Public Relations Department of Notley Advertising Ltd., has a new address at 25 Hill Street, Berkeley Square, London W.1 (telephone: Hyde Park, 4575).

● Radiotelevisione Italiana has placed an order with E.M.I. Electronics Ltd. for four of the latest television camera channels for use during this year's Olympic Games in Rome.

● Redland Tiles Ltd. have appointed Mr. Alan Watson as sales manager responsible for the Southern Region of the British Isles.

*A Bowater module ceiling of Thermal Acoustic panels has been fitted in the new City Library at St. Albans, Herts. The panels cover a ceiling area of 250 sq yds and form a checker-board pattern of zephyr and pink. Design was by E. R. Baines, L.R.I.B.A. and installation by D. & A. McKnight Ltd. of St. Albans*



## NEW PRODUCTS

*In this feature are reviewed new lines introduced to the building industry for the first time and additions or improvements to existing ones. Any advantages claimed for a product are from information supplied by the manufacturer*

### Dip Coating Powder

Telcovin "A" is a P.V.C. powder which has been added to this company's range of thermoplastic powders for dip-coating purposes. It is claimed to provide a tough yet flexible finish with good resistance to inorganic chemicals and mineral oils and to enable the powder dip-coating to be employed as an effective alternative to the current method of coating with P.V.C. plastisols. Advantages claimed for the powder are that it can be used with all existing types of fluidizing equipment, that it speeds up processing and eliminates the wastage and inconvenience caused by drips.

*The Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co. Ltd., Telcon Works, Greenwich, London, S.E.10. Greenwich 3291.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. A. Date 20/4/60.*

★

### New Opal Lampshade (B)

A new type of lampshade has been introduced for use in offices, hospitals, schools and commercial and industrial premises. The shades are made from Rigidex high density polyethylene, which is supplied by British Resin Products Ltd. and they are available in two sizes, 13in and 11in in dia. There is a 4½in hole in the top so that the shades can be fitted to standard monkscap suspensions. They are intended

for use with ordinary tungsten lamps and are claimed to give an even light distribution with no glare. The 13in size will accommodate lamps of up to 300 watts. The shades are available either individually or as complete fittings with either a brass monkscap and P.V.C. suspension (any length) or chromium plated with a 2ft chromium tube suspension. The shades are blow moulded for the company by Lacrinoid Products Ltd. and are claimed to be rigid and tough.

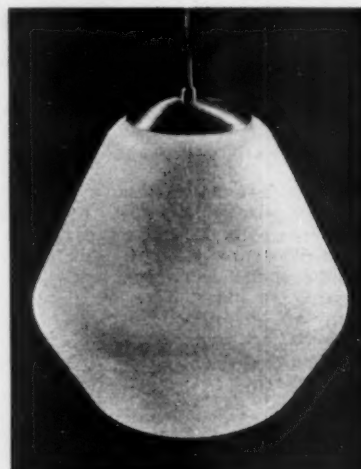
*H. W. Field & Son Ltd., Harold Wood, Essex.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. B. Date 20/4/60.*

★

### Decorative Ceiling Tiles (C)

This company is now producing decorative ceiling tiles which are made from sugar cane fibre. The tiles measure 12in by 12in by ½in thick, are bevelled on all edges and are finished with a white painted surface. They have perforations in a triangular decorative pattern so that when installed in mass they can be arranged to give three different effects. In addition to their value from a decorative point of view, it is claimed that the tiles provide a certain amount of heat insulation and reduce the escape of heat through the ceiling. The white painted finish of the tiles forms a suitable base for further decoration if required.



B

The tiles can be fixed by normal dry construction methods and can be applied to both new and old ceilings by either adhesive or by secret fixing to battens. In the case of old, damaged or cracked plaster and lath ceilings, the tiles can be screwed direct through to the laths providing these are in good condition. They are suitable for installation in every room in the house with the exception of the bathroom and kitchen. The tiles are supplied in cartons containing 24 tiles at a retail price of 1s 3d per tile.

*Celotex Ltd., North Circular Road, Stonebridge Park, London, N.W.10.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. C. Date 20/4/60.*

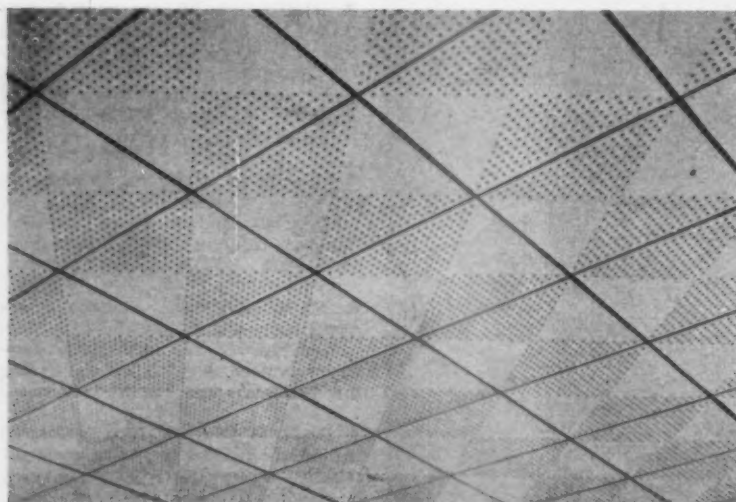
★

### Vitreous Enamelling By Spray Gun

This company has produced equipment for applying vitreous enamel by spray gun at very low air pressures. Suitable nozzles have been developed for this purpose on the L1900 Bullows-Binks model 19 and the L200 model 2. Best results can be got with the former at a fluid pressure of between 5lb and 12lb per sq in and with an air pressure of 25lb per sq in, using 63B by 66PH set-up. With the latter a fluid pressure of 5lb per sq in and an air pressure varying from 25lb to 50lb per sq in can be used, using A39 by A5P set up. Advantages claimed for this method of application are economy in the use of enamel. A very fine coat is applied which, when fired, is less brittle than with a thick enamel and it is easy to spray hollow objects, such as spin dryer bowls, bread bins, etc. A parallel development is that an enormous increase in speed is achieved with the L200, whilst mottling in enamel.

*Alfred Bullows & Sons Ltd., Long Street, Walsall, Staffs. Walsall 5401.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. D. Date 20/4/60.*



C

## ELECTRIC FLOOR-WARMING

INFORMATION SHEET

1



*Graiseley Estate, Wolverhampton • Designed by the Architects of the Borough Engineer's Department.  
Electrical contractor • Williams Brothers (Electrical) Ltd.*

## Electric floor-warming simplifies planning in 599 apartments in five different-size buildings

**Ideal comfort heating** Each apartment on this all-electric estate of 2, 3 and 8 storey flats, and 4 storey maisonettes, has a 'withdrawable' system of electric floor-warming installed in the living room, kitchen and hall, designed to give constant background warmth. Supplementary heating is provided by 2 kW panel fires in the living rooms.

**Planning is simplified** Inside the apartment: complete elimination of fireplaces, flues, and chimney breasts. No radiators or pipes mar the rooms. Outside the apartment: no boilerhouse, chimneys, fuel stores, pipe trenches, or fuel storage spaces. These features make electric floor-warming attractive from the housing authority's point of view.

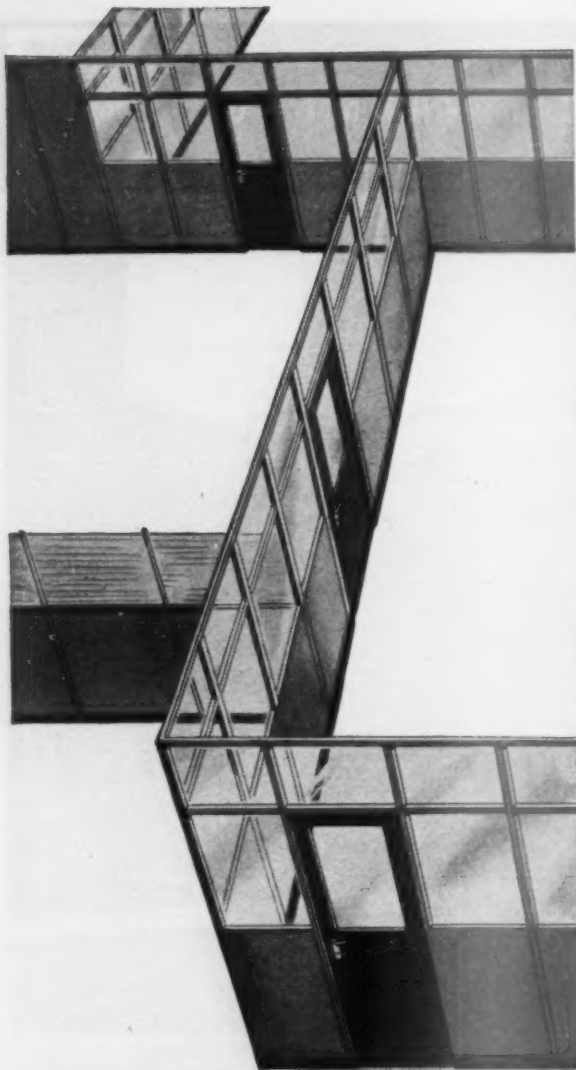
**Economy** Electric floor-warming is cheap to install, economical to run. It uses cheap 'off-peak' electricity; is tenant controlled. It is popular with tenants who appreciate comfort at reasonable cost.

**No labour involved** All chores connected with fuel handling are done away with. No fuel is needed in the apartment or on the site. There is less work for the housewife, and no need for boiler-room staff. Here then is an estate, an all-electric estate, where electricity supplies not only the water heating, cooking, lighting and all the power requirements of the tenants, but the space heating as well.

On the Graiseley Estate, they chose electric floor-warming. Now the tenants are reaping the benefits.

**If you are thinking of installing electric floor warming, ask your Electricity Board for details.**





## Milner

**DESIGN** Milner Steel Partitioning is unit constructed. It is easily transferable, sound and fire-resistant, and—above all—good looking.

**CONSTRUCT** The ready-made units of differing shapes and sizes can be combined in a great variety of ways. This enables our office partitioning to be "tailored" to suit particular requirements.

**ADVISE** We have experienced consultants ready at all times to offer you suggestions as to the planned partitioning of *your* office, bearing in mind the special factors involved.

**ERECT** Our own lorries bring the necessary units direct to the site. Highly skilled erection gangs assemble them quickly and efficiently.

**Milner** Steel Equipment

**G. A. HARVEY & CO. (LONDON) LTD**  
Makers of office equipment and partitioning

Central Sales Office:  
60 Rochester Row, London, S.W.1  
Phone: VICTORIA 5631

Branches at: Birmingham,  
Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds,  
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## FLOOR-WARMING CABLES *for* DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES

**AERIALITE "ASHATHERM"** floor-warming cables give  
fully reliable, solid embedded systems

for floors and roadways. The Aerialite

Floor-Warming Advisory and Technical

Service ensures that

**YOU** do a first-class floor-warming installation.

Monitoring sets are available to  
assist in laying and screeding.

Send for full details to:  
Department F.W.I.,

# Aerialite

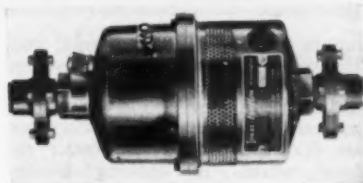
LIMITED.  
Castle Works, STALYBRIDGE, Cheshire  
Telephone: STALYbridge 2223/8

## NEW PRODUCTS

(continued)

## Small Bore Accelerator (E)

The Ideal-Hotflow accelerator has been produced for small bore domestic heating. It is compact and neat in design, has less than 3in maximum projection from the centre of the pipe and can be fitted at any angle. It has no seal or gland to leak or service. It is claimed to be quiet in operation and to be suitable for temperatures up to 275 deg F. There is a large axial gap in the accelerator which reduces the risk of stalling through dirt. The Ideal-Hotflow has a low-power consumption and overload protection is not necessary. It is mainly constructed of non-ferrous metal which eliminates most corrosion problems but for extremely corrosive water it can be supplied in bronze at extra cost. Accessories available



E

include the Ideal-Mixflow manually controlled mixing valve which allows the temperature of the heating circuit to be varied while the temperature of the separate gravity circulated flow and return to the indirect domestic hot water cylinder remains constant; a set of four flanges to receive copper tube with the accelerator can easily be installed and removed; and a wall-mounted on-off switch unit.

*Ideal Boilers & Radiators Ltd., Ideal House, Gt. Marlborough Street, W.1.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. E. Date 20/4/60.*

★

## Dry Construction Ceiling Panel (F)

A dry construction ceiling panel has been introduced which offers an alternative to plastering. Known as the Bowater D/C, the new panel has a face of bevel-edge, leather-grained, 1/4in hardboard laminated with PVA adhesive to a 1/2in frame which is strengthened with a single cross strut. The panel is backed with an aluminium faced waterproof kraft paper, providing a 1/2in sealed air space to give thermal insulation. It is claimed that when used with 1/2in T. and G. floorboards, the new panel gives a U value of 0.22. The new panel measures 2ft square and has a nominal thickness of 1/2in and is constructed to the revised

standards of Model By-Law 78, Standards of Domestic Insulation. Covering capacity is 2 1/4 panels per square yard. Fixing should be carried out by nailing to timber joists or grounds through the outer frame with 1 1/2in lost head nails. Hardboard splines are provided for fitting in the grooves in the four sides of the panel to ensure alignment. Panels and splines can be easily cut to size. Timber moulding is suitable for masking joints between ceiling panels and walls and for supporting cut edges. The panels may be decorated with paint, stain or varnish recommended for use on hardboard, and holes may be drilled for lighting fittings. Weight: 4lb 13oz per panel. Price: 15s per square yard approx.

*Buildings Boards Division, The Bowater Organization, Bowater House, S.W.1. Knightsbridge 6288.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. F. Date 20/4/60.*

★

## New Beam Compass

The Wellfield lightweight six-in-one beam compass has been produced for tracing and lay-out work. It comprises three various length beams and one extension bar, with accessories, giving compasses from 1in to 24in. The beams are of aluminium alloy and the small legs are interchangeable for pencil-inking or scribing with easy and positive positioning. Adjustments can be made while tracing with finger-tip control, without removing the axis leg from the board. A heavy, 24in long extension beam can be supplied as an accessory to the set to increase the range to 56in radii.

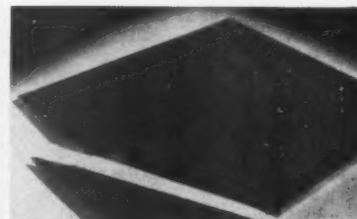
*Peter Shakeshaft Ltd., Turner Street Works, Warrington, Lancs.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. G. Date 20/4/60.*

★

## Night/Day Switch (H)

The new photo-electric type DCR switch automatically switches on lights when it becomes dark and switches them off again when daylight comes. Particular features are an independent adjustment of light levels and a circuit which is stable against mains supply fluctuations. It is considered to be specially suited for the control of street lighting and advertising signs and for electrical circuits in factories, railway sidings, loading bays, hotel and theatre foyers. All the components are mounted on a printed circuit which is fixed behind the front insulation panel. The unit is mounted into a substantial weather-proof cast iron casing which has 1/2in slots for fixing. Light falls on to the photo-cell through a glass dome on top of the casing. The DCR switch is suitable for connecting to 200/250V A.C. supply and the light that falls on to the photo cell causes the contacts in the unit to operate when the light has decreased to the level set on the



F

controls provided. The output contacts operate approximately 30 seconds after the preset light intensity has been reached, but a switch is provided so that the delay period can be cut out when required. Output relay in the unit has contacts rated at 3 amps at 250V A.C. and this can be increased by means of a mercury switch relay up to 60 amps T.P. 250V A.C.

*Londex Ltd., Anerley Works, London, S.E.20. Sydenham 3111.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. H. Date 20/4/60.*

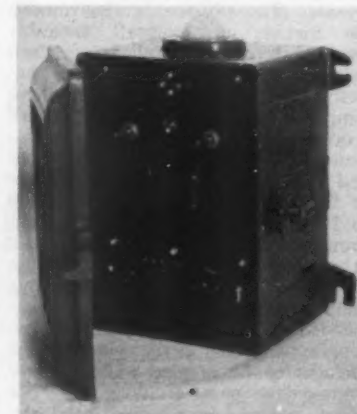
★

## Heavy Duty Cutter

The Solid Optima cutter is the latest addition to the Ideal range of such products. It is a heavy duty cutter and has been specially reinforced for cutting thicknesses of over 1/4in. It is stated to be suitable for cutting heavy board, linoleum, plastics, carpeting, light metal foils and similar materials. It can be supplied either as a bench model with a hand clamp or on a tubular steel stand with a foot operated clamp. It will cut widths of up to 31 1/2in and the cutting table measures 31 1/2in by 23 1/2in. There are scales both at the back and front which are graduated in 1/16ths and m/ms. The back gauge can be locked in position for accurate repeat cutting. The front gauge is of the Dial-Set type and can be locked in position for continuous repeat cutting of accurate off-cuts. Price £62 10s 0d (bench model) and £73 10s 0d (on tubular stand).

*Westwood Paper Ltd., 185 Goswell Road, London, E.C.1.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. I. Date 20/4/60.*



H

## NEW PRODUCTS (continued)

### Glass Fibre Masonry Panels

Glasrox glass fibre masonry panels have been produced for use as a facing material where structural or other limitations make the use of genuine stone impossible. They are suitable for both exterior and interior use and can be fixed to any nailable surface. Panels are impressed with stones of six different shapes, measure 3ft by 1ft and have a  $\frac{1}{2}$ in flange around the entire outside edge. This self spaces the joints of adjacent panels, provides an overlap watertight joint and saves extra nailing. Glasrox panels can be cut by means of a power saw with carborundum blade, or a fine tooth hand saw. All simulated mortar joints should be caulked with Glasrox frost-proof mortar. Cotswold stone and Cornish grey/green colours are available, the pigments being permanent and moulded into the product rather than applied. Prices: panels—12 per case for £13; 9in by 3in by 12in corner pieces—7s 3d each; Glasrox mortar— $\frac{1}{2}$ gal (to cover 40 sq ft of panelling) 13s, or 25s per gal.

*Glas-Roc (Camberley) Ltd., High Street, Camberley, Surrey.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. J. Date 20/4/60.*

★

### New Wood Adhesive

Bakelite cement (DG 19143) a resorcinol based product and Bakelite hardener (DQ 19144) form an adhesive for constructional work in wood, when mixed together in the recommended proportions. The adhesive meets with the requirements of B.S. 1204:1956 Type WBP/GF. It is stated that the joints so formed have maximum water resistance and durability and the makers recommend the adhesive for use in the manufacture of laminated timber beams and trusses. The adhesive is also suitable for marine and aircraft assembly work and for any application which demands a permanent, non-acidic adhesive, which will harden at room temperature. The cement is a dark reddish-brown liquid whilst the hardener is a pale cream to buff powder and these should be mixed together in the respective proportions of 100 to 25 parts by weight. The hardener should be added to the cement a little at a time with stirring to avoid the formation of lumps, and at least five minutes vigorous mixing is recommended so that the hardener is thoroughly dispersed in the cement. The surfaces to be bonded must be free from grease, paint or loose dirt. No other special precautions need be

taken for wood painting. The adhesive may be applied to one or both of the surfaces to be bonded by brush, roller spreader, spatula or other suitable means. For close fitted joints, spreads of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 5lb per 100 sq ft of glue line should be suitable and where gaps have to be filled, sufficient adhesive should be used so that a surplus exudes when the joint is put under pressure. Only sufficient pressure to keep the parts in intimate contact is required when bonding wood and this pressure need only be applied for the time required to set the adhesive mixture. The minimum setting time of the mixture varies between 22 hours at a temperature of 20 deg C and three hours at 45 deg C. A further conditioning period of about seven days under ordinary storage conditions is required for the joint to attain full strength.

*Bakelite & Co. Ltd., 12-18 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. K. Date 20/4/60.*

★

### New Rigging Screws (L)

This company's range of rigging screws has been increased to cover sizes from  $\frac{1}{4}$ in dia, up to  $\frac{1}{2}$ in dia, with breaking strains of up to 30,000lb. The screws are made from Firth Vickers Staybrite F.M.B. to specification E.N. 58J (American specification A.I.S.I. 316). The price of these small dinghy rigging screws has also been reduced to 10s 6d each for  $\frac{1}{4}$ in eye and eye and to 12s 6d for  $\frac{1}{2}$ in fork and eye.

*M. S. Gibbs Ltd., Warsash, nr. Southampton, Hants.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. L. Date 20/4/60.*

★

### Warm Air Central Heating (M)

Canadian domestic oil-fired warm air heating equipment is now available in this country. It is being marketed by the UK subsidiary of Barlin-Scott Manufacturing Co. Ltd., of Hamilton, Ontario.

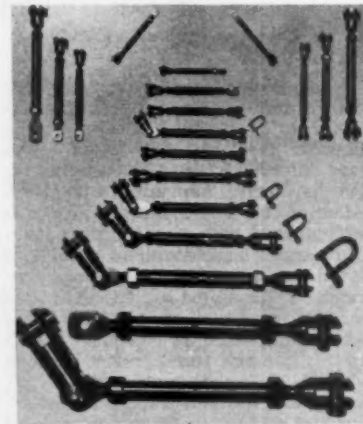
The equipment is fully automatic and thermostatically controlled and can be converted to gas firing if necessary. The furnace is contained in a steel case measuring 5ft 2in high by 1ft 6in wide by 1ft 10in deep, and it can therefore be accommodated without difficulty in a kitchen or hall near a flue-outlet. Heated air is blown through metal ducting to every part of the house, diffusers being normally placed in floorboards, and it is claimed that a window can normally be left open without much loss of heat. The furnace output is 50,000 B.Th.U. governed by an air-circulating fan which moves 550 cu ft of air per minute. It operates on the Twin Air principle whereby the fan speed increases or reduces with the height of the flame. Domestic water heating



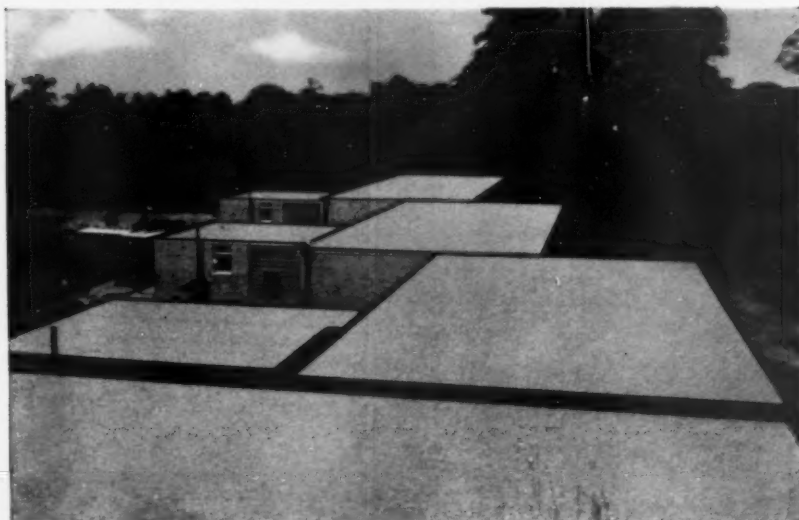
can be provided by an internal coil. The entire equipment can be installed in new or existing houses in three to six days. In new houses light-gauge galvanized pipes, 4in in diameter, are laid in the concrete under the floor whilst, in existing houses, squared ducting is fixed along the tops of room and passage walls. At present the ducting only is being manufactured by the British subsidiary company and the furnaces are being shipped as complete units from Canada, but it is anticipated, however, that the furnaces will be manufactured in this country as soon as the demand warrants. For the average new three-bedroomed house the installed price is approximately £250. In existing houses installed costs vary from £275 to £300 for an average 1,000 sq ft house.

*Lincoln Furnaces Ltd., Oxted Mill, Oxted, Surrey.*

*Readers' Information Service, Ref. M. Date 20/4/60.*







*Light coloured  
chippings for  
solar reflectivity.*

## **PERMANITE BUILT-UP FELT ROOFING**

*Permatile  
coloured concrete  
tiles to take foot  
traffic.*



**PERMANITE** specialise in built-up felt roofing systems incorporating various surface finishes to suit special conditions.  
*Consult **PERMANITE** at the Planning Stage*

*for* **ASPHALT TANKING**  
**ASPHALT FLOORING**  
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**BUILT-UP FELT ROOFING**

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**BIRMINGHAM**

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BLAckfriars 9469

*PERMANITE also manufacture bituminous dampcourses.*

*Specify **PERMANITE***



**New colours  
and patterns**

**from**

**FORMICA\***

**Rosewood**

Owing to limitations of printing,  
the colours shown here  
may differ from those  
of actual Formica patterns.

*Bleached  
Dark*

**Linette**

*Persian Blue  
Canary Yellow  
Holly Green  
Autumn Tan  
Tangerine*

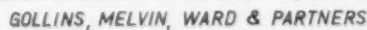
**Macassar Ebony**

*Grey  
Dark  
Light*



**FORMICA—THE FINEST OF ALL THE DECORATIVE LAMINATES**

\*FORMICA is a registered trademark. Formica Ltd, De La Rue House, 84/86 Regent Street, London W1





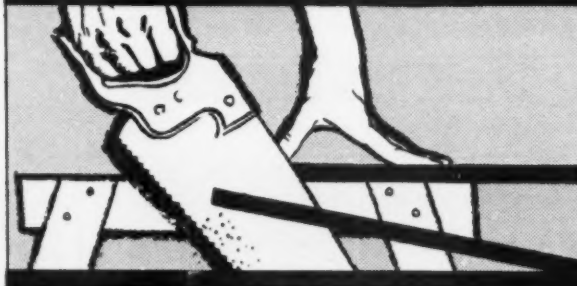
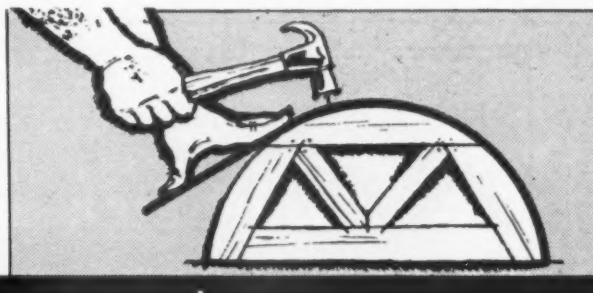


The tall block of Castrol House in Marylebone Road is clad entirely in an aluminium and glass curtain wall. Natural ventilation is provided by vertically sliding windows, the frame of the upper sash being anodised black. Spandrel panels are in a green heat resisting glass and are lit at night by cold cathode tubes; the baffles to these are stoved white internally and pale grey externally, to blend with the concrete frame and thus produce a uniform image in all light conditions. Architects: Gollins, Melvin, Ward & Partners

WALL DETAIL, OFFICES,  
MARYLEBONE ROAD, LONDON

## BEND IT

with ease to almost any curve. Even down to a radius of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " round a heated former.

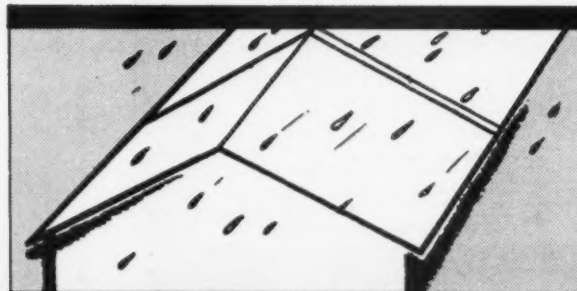


## SAW IT

and note the hard, clean edge. It can also be chamfered, carved, rebated, combjointed and dovetailed, etc.

## PAINT IT

you'll get a better finish with Timberit and remember — no filling, sealing, or pre-sanding is necessary.



## USE IT

externally as well as indoors. Timberit has remarkable weather resisting properties.

and **GET IT**  
in 7 thicknesses  
up to half-inch!

$\frac{1}{8}$ "  $\frac{3}{16}$ "  $\frac{1}{4}$ "  $\frac{5}{16}$ "  $\frac{3}{8}$ "  $\frac{7}{16}$ "  $\frac{1}{2}$ "

**STANDARD**—  
for all normal purposes  
**TEMPERED**—  
when extra resistance to moisture and wear  
and tear is required.  
**ARMOURBOARD**—  
specially oil treated board of great  
strength for the concrete engineer.

Timberit is the most versatile hardboard. It has so many advantages. It is available in various thicknesses. It is made of wood, yet its uniform density eliminates warping, splitting, shrinking or swelling.

**SPECIFY TIMBERIT**  
**—THE WORLD'S BEST**

Write for samples and names of your local stockists to:

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**TIMBERIT**  
**hardboard**

## this sign sells houses

You can offer decay and insect proofed 'Tanalised' timber as an optional extra in your houses. Being vacuum pressure impregnated it promises your customers life-long freedom from maintenance costs due to Dry Rot, Woodworm, etc. in joists, flooring and roof timbers. 'Tanalised' timber is ideal for house building, being clean, non-oily and odourless. Join the builders who already . . .



**'Tanalised' Timber**

in this house will  
not be attacked by  
**ROT or INSECTS**

As an optional extra the joists, flooring and roofing timbers in these houses can be vacuum/pressure impregnated with 'Tanalised' C preservative before installation. The treatment is clean and odourless and gives full protection against fungal decay (dry and wet rot) and damage by insect grubs (woodworm, longhorn, etc.).

HICKSON'S TIMBER IMPREGNATION CO. (GB) LTD.  
Castleford, Yorkshire Tel. 01937 388



sell more houses with

**'Tanalised' Timber**

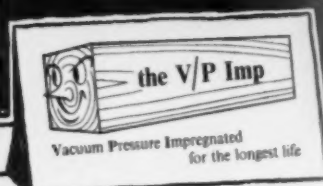
May we quote the small extra cost of using 'Tanalised' timber in your houses? Treatment plants are situated at 38 strategic points and most of them are in timber merchants' yards.

**HICKSON'S TIMBER IMPREGNATION CO. (G.B.) LTD.**

Castleford, Yorkshire      Castleford 2607

and at 8 Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S.W.1.

Sloane 0636



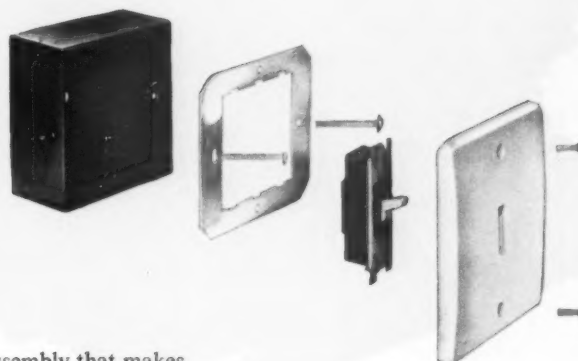
'Tanalised' is the registered trademark of HTI Co. (GB) Ltd.



# ***NEW* 'MUTAC, CLIPPER'**



**easy-to-assemble switches  
cut installation costs, save time,  
simplify additions & alterations**



Good looks to please the eye. Simplified assembly that makes good sense because it cuts installation costs—

after wiring they can be put together in under a minute.

These are the things you will like about the new

G.E.C. Clipper Switches.

These new assemblies cover the wide range of 5 amp. S.P.

1 way, 2 way, 2 way and off, and intermediate switches,

bell push, neon indicator and blanking units for commercial and domestic installations.

Your stock problems are simplified too, because only two sizes of boxes are required for the 1 to 6 gang assemblies.

A final word about those good looks—G.E.C. Clipper Switches have been accepted by the Council of Industrial Design for Design Index.

*Architects, consulting engineers and electrical contractors will welcome the new Mutac Clipper range.*



## **INSTALLATION EQUIPMENT GROUP**

SWITCH AND FUSE GEAR • H.R.C. FUSES • OVERHEAD BUSBARS  
RISING MAINS • CONDUIT • CABLE • CABLE TRUNKING • UNDER-  
FLOOR CABLE DUCTS • ELECTRIC WIRING ACCESSORIES • BELLS





## Practical structural insulation with

# THERMALITE

The photographs here show portions of a two floor detached house currently being built. The methods of construction shown comply fully with requirements and will provide a high standard of comfort in the complete house.

Owing to the adaptability and the ease with which Thermalite can be worked an overall saving in man-hours can be achieved for each house erected.

### Properties of Thermalite.

1. Dry density 50 lbs ft. 3
2. Compressive strength to BS:2028 type A.
3. Moisture movement/drying shrinkage to BS: 2028 Type B.
4. Thermal conductivity (k) 1.4 B.T.U. s etc.
5. Nominal face size 18" x 9", actual sizes 17½" x 8½", or 9½". Thicknesses 2½", 3", 4", 5", 6" and 8½" (tolerance to BS: 2028).
6. Fire resistance 4" load-bearing plastered hot face—2 hour grade. Fire resistance 4" non-loadbearing unplastered—4 hour grade.

## Loadbearing insulating building blocks

### Load Bearing: Inner Leaf.

Here 4" Thermalite blocks are shown carrying the first floor joists. The inner leaf above the joists is continued in 3" Thermalite.

### Load Bearing: Front Face.

This 6" Thermalite solid wall provides simple direct fixing without battens. The wall when tile-hung will have a 'U' value of .16 B.T.U.'s. The end wall shown is in cavity construction using 3" Thermalite inner and 4½" brick outer leaf with wall-ties spaced at 18" centres horizontally and vertically.

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### Load Bearing: Eaves Level.

This internal view shows the 6" Thermalite solid wall carrying lintel, roof plate and roofing members.

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**BIRMINGHAM CORPORATION  
ESTATES COMMITTEE** has provisionally agreed to the grant to Anselis Brewery Ltd., of a lease or a site in Great Colmore Street at the corner of Wynn Street for the proposed erection of fully licensed premises. Minimum cost of the building £30,000.

A site at the corner of Kitsland Road and Berrowside Road, Shard End, is to be leased to Associated Midland Brewers Ltd., for the erection of fully on-licensed premises. Minimum cost of the buildings £15,000.

Working drawings are being prepared for the erection of a proposed multi-storey home for 76 residents in Birchfield Road, Perry Barr. It is expected that tenders will be obtained during September 1960 so that work may start in October.

**BIRMINGHAM CORPORATION  
PARKS COMMITTEE** has approved a scheme for the development of an area of land, approximately 22 acres, known as West Heath Recreation Ground, for the construction of a Sports Pavilion containing internal lavatories and showers, mess rooms, first aid rooms, refreshment servery, office, equipment store, public shelter and public convenience, etc. Estimated cost £41,062.

**BOURNEMOUTH CORPORATION  
BATHS COMMITTEE** has recommended approval to a scheme for the construction of an orthodox pool for the proposed public baths on the Kinson estate. Estimated cost £60,000.

**BOURNEMOUTH CORPORATION  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE** has approved plans submitted by the Borough Architect for the provision of a boiler house for East Howe Infants' School. Estimated cost £3,700.

**BOURNEMOUTH CORPORATION  
HOUSING AND ESTATES COMMITTEE** has approved a sketch plan submitted by the Borough Architect for 12 two-bedroom flats and seven garage bases at Moore Avenue/West Howe Road, Site No. 4.

**BRISTOL CORPORATION PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE** has approved the grant of the lease of a plot of land fronting High Street and Wine Street to the Bank of England, who are to develop the site. It has also proposed to grant a further lease of a site fronting High Street to the Norwich Union Insurance Societies Ltd., who propose to develop the site.

**BRISTOL CORPORATION HOUSING COMMITTEE** has approved a scheme for the extension and improvement of the Maintenance Depot at Berrow Walk, Bedminster, the work to be carried out by the Housing Department Maintenance Staff. Estimated cost £4,000.

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**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL MARKETS AND BATHS COMMITTEE** recommends approval to a scheme for a laundry at Livingstone Road. Estimated cost £57,085.

A scheme has been approved for additional chillroom facilities at the Public Abattoir. Estimated cost £25,020.

A scheme has been approved for additional chill room facilities for the butchery section at Barras Heath Wholesale Market. Estimated cost £6,068.

Application by Central Sales (Coventry) Ltd., has been approved for extensions to storage buildings and a canopy at Barras Heath Wholesale Market.

**HULL CORPORATION PARKS AND BURIAL COMMITTEE** is to proceed with the scheme for the construction of a paddling pool at Ferens Boating Lake. The General Superintendent has been authorised to invite tenders for the work. Estimated cost £4,500.

Final plans submitted by the City Architect for the erection of Bethune County Primary School have been approved. He has been instructed to prepare working drawings and to invite tenders for the project. Estimated cost £61,031, including £1,351 for the preparation of playing fields, site layout and planting, etc.

Scheme for extensions and adaptations to Kingston-upon-Hull Training College have been approved. Estimated cost, including the preparation of the grounds and playing field, £360,705. Subject to receipt of all necessary approvals, the City Architect is to obtain tenders from a selected list of contractors.

The City Architect has been instructed to prepare plans and to negotiate a price with Spooners (Hull) Ltd., for provision of four additional classrooms at Wansbeck Primary School.

**SOUTH SHIELDS CORPORATION HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE** tenders are to be invited for the proposed Maternity and Child Welfare, School Health Service and Dental Clinic at Bolden Lane. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has issued loan sanction for £14,500 in respect of this project.

The committee reports that it is proposed shortly to invite tenders for a Branch Library building as part of the scheme for a group of public buildings at Bolden Lane.

**SOUTH SHIELDS CORPORATION TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE** has considered a letter from Messrs. Kitching & Co. on behalf of their clients stating that they were interested in erecting shop premises and offices on the site at the end of East Street. The site is to be made available and the Town Clerk is to open negotiations with the Company on the basis of a 99-year lease at a rental to be agreed.

**SOUTHPORT CORPORATION ESTATES COMMITTEE** has instructed the Borough Architect to prepare sketch plans for the proposed blocks of flats to be erected on approximately 1.45 acres of land on the north-westerly side of Threlfals Lane.

**ST. MARYLEBONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HOUSING COMMITTEE** recommends approval to a draft scheme for the development of Nos. 51/54 Beaumont Street by the erection of a four-storey block of flats for old people. Messrs. Arthur W. Kenyon Taute & Partners, 140 Park Lane, W.1, have been recommended as architects for the development.

**SURBITON CORPORATION** is recommended to approve the appointment of Messrs. Anderson & Eglinton, of Kingston-upon-Thames, as architects, and of Mr. Irving Todd, of London, as quantity surveyor, for the proposed erection of public conveniences at the Public Library.

**WAKEFIELD CORPORATION** planning applications have been submitted by Simpson & Moxon for Beverley Bros. Ltd., for alterations to Flanshaw Hotel, Flanshaw Lane, also for two shops at Kirkgate and Legh Street for Mrs. S. H. Barford.

**WALLASEY CORPORATION WORKS COMMITTEE** has approved a sketch plan of proposed covered swimming baths to be sited at the District Centre, Moreton. The Borough Architect has been authorised to prepare detailed plans for the erection of these baths. Estimated cost £180,000, including £25,000 for piping salt water from the sea.

## OPEN

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in a bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the address it is the same as the locality given in the heading (c) deposit (d) last date of application (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked\* are given in the advertisement section.

**ALDERSHOT B.C.** (a) House in Guildford Road. (b) Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2gn. (e) May 2.

**AYLESBURY B.C.** (a) Factory, estimated to cost £25,000, on Gatehouse estate. (b) Town Clerk, Town Hall. (c) 5gn. (d) Immediately. (e) April 25. The work is to begin on May 2, and completed on November 30. Contractors wishing to tender should show in their application that they have the resources, etc., to carry out the work in that time.

**CHISLEHURST AND SIDCUP U.C.** (a) Five bungalows at Longlands Road. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Manor House, Sidcup. (c) 2gn. (e) Tender date to be announced.

**CHORLEY B.C.** (a) Fixed tender for erection of 120 dwellings at Burgh Lane site. (b) Borough Engineer's Office. (c) 3gn. (e) April 25.

**EAST SUSSEX C.C.** (a) Science Laboratory and two classrooms at Willingdon County Secondary School. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Lewes. (d) April 23.

(a) Alterations to form a kitchen and dining room and installation of central heating at Stafford House, Keymer. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Lewes. (d) April 22.



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**ECCLES B.C.** (a) Branch library at Liverpool Road, Peel Green. (b) Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall Annexe, Irwell Place. (c) 3gn. (e) April 23.

**LUDLOW B.C.** (a) Stage 4 of the swimming pool scheme, involving conversion of an old mill into changing and ancillary accommodation, the formation of a car park and erection of fences and barriers. (b) S. N. Shrimpton & Son, 54 Broad Street, Ludlow. (c) 3gn.

**MANCHESTER C.C.** (a) Traffic and baggage wing, concourse, customs and restaurant wing, flight piers, etc., at the new terminal building, Manchester Airport. (b) City Architect, P.O. Box 488, Town Hall. (c) April 27.

**NORTHAMPTON B.C.** (a) 60 lock-up garages, Kings Heath (27), Leicester Street (6), Eastfield (13) and Kingsthorpe Grove (14). (b) Borough Architect, Guildhall. (c) 2gn. (d) April 18. (e) May 30.

**NORTH RIDING C.C.** (a) County modern school (stage 2) at Brotton, near Saltburn-by-the-Sea. (b) F. Barraclough, County Hall, Northallerton, or the architects, Hadfield, Cawkwell and Davidson, 17 Broomsgrove Road, Sheffield, 10. (c) April 29.

**PENGE U.C.** (a) 20 dwellings, comprising 16 flats in block form and four terrace houses. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 5gn. (e) April 28.

**PONTYPOOL R.C.** (a) Development of the remainder of Penpollni housing site, near Nantydyrry. (b) Thomas and Morgan, 23 Gelliswastad Road, Pontypridd. (c) 3gn. (e) May 1.

**WATH-ON-DEARNE U.C.** (a) Aged persons' community, comprising 64 dwellings, and tenants' meeting hall. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 3gn. (e) April 25.

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**WEST RIDING C.C.** (a) (1) Conversion of classroom in former infants' school to kitchen, including installation of equipment, and Penistone Thurlstone J.M. and I. School. (2) Re-organization of existing kitchen (all trades) at Kirkburton Shepley J.M. School. (b) Divisional Architect, Flint Street, Huddersfield. (c) May 2.

**YORK C.C.** (a) Crematorium and superintendent's house at Bishopthorpe Road. (b) E. Firth, City Architect, 8 St. Leonard's Place, York. (c) £3, cheques payable to York Corporation. (e) April 28.

**DONEGAL C.C.** (a) Water supply extension to Urris, Clonmany. (b) Secretary, Donegal County Council, Lifford. (c) 5gn. (e) May 2.

**DUBLIN.** (a) Three 4-storey blocks and two 5-storey blocks, containing 22 maisonnettes and 131 flats at Bridgefoot Street Housing Area, section No. 1, for Dublin Corporation. (b) City Treasurer, Exchange Buildings, Lord Edward Street, Dublin. (c) 15gn. (e) May 10.

**GALWAY.** (a) Re-construction of the National Club, Galway, for the Galway Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. (b) Mr. Phadraig Mulcahy, 4 Northbrook Road, Dublin. (c) 10gn. (e) April 27.

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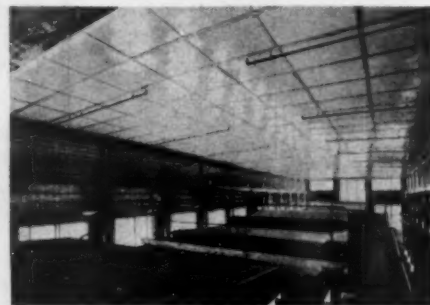


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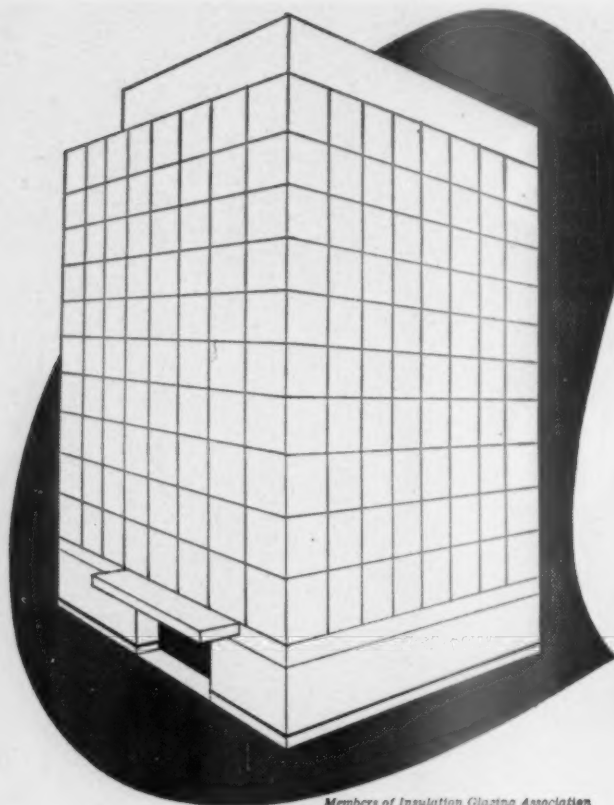
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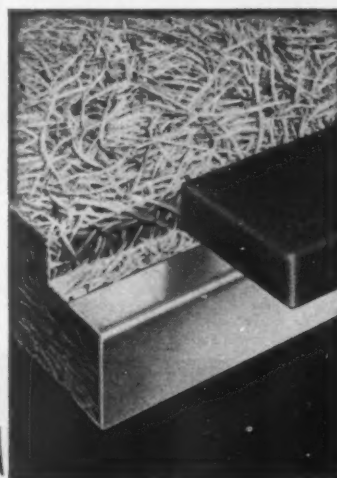
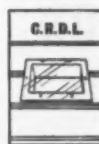
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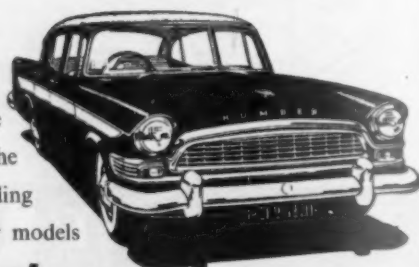
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# ARCHITECTURE AS A CAREER

## *A Practical Handbook for Students*

By Maurice E. Taylor, M.T.P.I., A.R.I.B.A., F.I.L.A., F.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.S.COT., R.I.B.A. DIST. T.P., A.A. DIP. of Planning. A book in which the author, himself a successful practising architect, discusses the various methods of approach to the architectural profession. He explains clearly the regulations and documents concerning all the important R.I.B.A. examinations and offers advice which no student intending to take the examinations can afford to miss. He also gives essential information on the many valuable scholarships and prizes open to students, again accompanied by much sage counsel.

The book offers practical, comprehensive and up-to-date information on every aspect of the profession. It discusses, from the student's viewpoint, the many problems he is likely to encounter and sets out plainly, fully and sympathetically everything the intending architect will require to know during his student days.

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# OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## APPOINTMENTS • CONTRACTS • TENDERS

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### APPOINTMENTS

**ARCHITECTS AND MAINTENANCE SURVEYORS.** Pensionable posts for men and women at least 25 and under 35 on January 1, 1960 (extension for regular Forces service, Overseas Civil Service, established civil service and temporary Government service as Architect or Maintenance Surveyor). Candidates must be registered Architects or, alternatively, for Maintenance Surveyor posts, have achieved Corporate membership of R.I.C.S. (Building Section), or have passed examinations necessary for attaining Corporate membership. Starting salary (men, London) from £830 to £1,125 according to age. Scale maximum (London) £1,300. Promotion prospects. Write Civil Service Commission, 17 North Audley Street, London, W.1, for application form quoting S 60-61. [6394]

#### Aycliffe Development Corporation APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above appointment at a salary within Grade APT III of the Whitley Council for New Towns Staff scale of salaries, according to qualifications and experience. The salary ranges from £880 p.a. to £1,065 p.a. Appointment subject to N.J.C. conditions, superannuation, medical examination and to one month's notice, in writing, on either side.

Housing accommodation, if required.  
Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two referees to arrive not later than Saturday, April 30, 1960.

A. V. WILLIAMS,  
General Manager.

Churchill House,  
Newton Aycliffe,  
Nr. Darlington. [6397]

County Council of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright  
APPLICATIONS are invited from (a) Associates R.I.B.A. for posts of Assistant Architects (Salary up to £1,075 per annum according to experience) and from (b) others, preferably having passed the Intermediate R.I.B.A., for posts of Architectural Assistants (Salary £605 to £735 per annum with placing according to qualifications and experience) for responsible work on Schools and Houses, in a pleasant maritime county in the South of Scotland. Car Allowances payable; car purchase scheme available; five day week.

Applications giving age, qualifications and details of previous experience and the names and addresses of two referees, to be lodged with the County Clerk, County Offices, Kirkcudbright, not later than April 30, 1960. [6398]

#### City of Bradford City Architect's Department

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following permanent posts:

- (a) Assistant Architects A.P.T. IV (£1,065-£1,220).
- (b) Assistant Architects (Special Grade) (£785-£1,070).
- (c) Assistant Architects A.P.T. I (£610-765).
- (d) Senior Quantity Surveyor A.P.T. IV (£1,065-£1,220).
- (e) Assistant Heating and Ventilating Engineers A.P.T. IV (£1,065-£1,220).

The Department has a number of large projects in hand, including the new Bradford Institute of Technology, affording ample scope and opportunities.

Candidates for posts (a), (b), (d) and (e) must have full professional qualifications and for (c), must have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A. In addition, applicants for posts in A.P.T. IV are required to have had varied experience.

No assistance can be given in the provision of housing accommodation.  
Application forms, obtainable from the City Architect, Town Hall, returnable with copies of two recent testimonials by May 7, 1960.

HENRY PATTEN,  
Town Clerk. [6407]

**THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS** will shortly appoint a Deputy Secretary to the Board of Architectural Education.

The duties of the Board are to advise the Council of the Royal Institute on all matters relating to architectural education.

A University degree is essential. Previous experience in administration is desirable.

Salary: £2,000-£100-£3,000; starting point according to qualifications and experience.

Further information and application form from the Secretary R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, London, W.1. Closing date for applications: May 20, 1960. [6408]

### APPOINTMENTS (cont)

Her Majesty's Overseas Civil Service  
Planning Officer, Public Works Department, Hong Kong

TO prepare plans and conditions for development schemes of all types. General Town Planning duties and consideration of private and public building proposals.

Pensionable appointment. Age limit 45. Salary scale £1,500-£2,865 with point of entry between £1,650 and £2,325 according to experience. Rented quarters. Free passages. Candidates must be A.M.T.P.I. and have a minimum of one year's post qualification experience, preferably with A.M.I.C.E. or A.M.I.Mun.E. or secondly A.R.I.B.A. or A.R.I.C.S.

Write Director of Recruitment, Colonial Office, London, S.W.1, giving full names, age, qualifications and experience quoting BCD 112/51/031/E1. [6399]

#### London County Council

##### ARCHITECTS

(up to £1,135) (under review)

REQUIRED for Housing, Schools, General and Special Works Divisions. Full and varied programme of new work including schools, multi-storey flats and town development. Starting salaries according to qualifications and experience.

Particulars and application form from Hubert Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., Architect to Council, (EK/ABN/496/3), County Hall, S.E.1. [6264]

##### SURVEYORS

(Basic Grade)

REQUIRED by Ministry of Works in London and Reading. London salary scale £830 (at age 25) to £1,300 per annum; Reading salary scale £780 (at age 25) to £1,220 per annum. Starting pay up to £1,125 (London) and £1,065 (Reading) at age 34, according to age and experience. Five-day week. 22 days annual leave. Prospects of promotion and opportunities for permanent and pensionable posts.

Applicants should be Registered Architects by examination or Corporate Members of R.I.C.S. (Building Section). Apply stating age, qualifications and full details of experience of Chief Maintenance Surveyor (Recruitment), Ministry of Works (A), Stanley House, Marsham Street, London, S.W.1. [6390]

### APPOINTMENTS (cont)

West Sussex County Council  
County Architect's Department

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointment:

Senior Assistant Architect, at a salary in accordance with Grade V (APT) of the National scales of salaries—£1,220 × £55 × £50—£1,375. Commencing salary will be according to experience.

Further particulars should be obtained from the County Architect, County Hall, Chichester, to whom all detailed applications must be submitted, not later than May 5, 1960.

T. C. HAYWARD,  
Clerk of the County Council.

County Hall,  
Chichester. [6380]

#### Borough of Ellesmere Port

APPOINTMENT OF (i) SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT (A.P.T. GRADE IV £1,065-£1,220)  
(ii) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (A.P.T. GRADE II £765-£880)

APPLICATIONS are invited from experienced men for the above appointments on the permanent salaried staff of the Borough Engineer & Surveyor. Applicants for (i) Senior Architectural Assistant must have passed the final examination of the R.I.B.A. or its equivalent; (ii) Architectural Assistant must have completed their professional training and have had good general architectural experience, preferably in a Local Government Department, preference will be given to those who have passed a preliminary examination of the R.I.B.A.

A weekly tenancy of a Council house will be offered to the successful candidates on appointment if they reasonably require accommodation.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, experience and giving the names and addresses of two referees must reach me by not later than Friday, May 6, 1960.

Municipal Offices, R. J. BERNIE,  
Ellesmere Port. Town Clerk. [6411]  
April 9, 1960.

Classified Advertisements  
continued overleaf

## CITY OF SHEFFIELD—CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

Enthusiastic and imaginative architects possessing the drive and determination necessary to help rebuild this industrial hill city are invited to apply for the following posts on the permanent staff of the City Architect, Mr. J. L. Womersley.

- (a) GROUP LEADER ARCHITECT (EDUCATION AND GENERAL)—Grade A.P.T. V (£1,220-£1,375).
- (b) SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT (HOUSING)—Grade A.P.T. IV (£1,065-£1,220).
- (c) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS—IN BOTH HOUSING AND EDUCATION AND GENERAL—Grade S.C. (£785-£1,070).
- (d) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS—Grade A.P.T. II (£765-£880).

The Housing Section is engaged on large scale schemes of redevelopment and new development and there are excellent prospects of further work on challenging schemes of urban renewal.

The Education and General Section is responsible for an expanding and interesting programme of large and important civic buildings, including colleges, schools, libraries, art galleries, old people's and children's homes, bus garages, fire and police stations, health centres and clinics and Town Hall Extensions.

COMMENCING SALARIES WITHIN THE ABOVE GRADES ACCORDING TO QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE.

Candidates for post (a) must be fully qualified and capable of taking charge of a group responsible for the design and supervision to completion of major works on new schools. For post (b) the person appointed will be required to prepare layouts of housing areas and to design, prepare working drawings and supervise to completion all types of dwellings including multi-storey flats.

Applications for posts (c) will be welcomed from students completing their training this year and from young qualified architects seeking appointments offering considerable scope. Applicants for posts (d) should be of Intermediate R.I.B.A. Standard.

Applications stating post applied for, age, education and training, qualifications, present and past appointments (with dates and salaries), experience and the names of two persons to whom reference may be made should reach me not later than May 2, 1960.

Town Hall, Sheffield, 1

JOHN HEYS, Town Clerk

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### APPOINTMENTS (cont)

County Borough of Bury  
APPLICATIONS invited for permanent appointment of Assistant Quantity Surveyor, A.P.T. I (£610-£765) or A.P.T. II (£765-£880) or A.P.T. III (£880-£1,065) or Special Grade (£785-£1,070). Commencing salary according to qualifications and experience.  
Applications stating age, details of training, qualifications, experience, present and previous appointments and salary, together with names and addresses of two referees, must reach me by May 2, 1960.  
EDWARD S. SMITH,  
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,  
Bury,  
April 11, 1960. [6410]

### ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required. Messrs. Steane, Shipman & Cantacuzino, a small architectural firm of two practising partners and secretary, require Assistant of at least four years' full-time office experience. Eight hours daily Monday to Fridays. Salary by arrangement. 18 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. TRA 2774. [0880]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS of Final or Intermediate standard required by London architects with varied practice. Salary by arrangement. Five-day week. Ring WHI 2552 for interview. [0720]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS required in the salary range £550/£600, with prospects, for varied practice in Cambridge. Not less than Intermediate standard will be considered. Apply in writing to D. C. Denton-Smith & Partners, 40 Regent Street, Cambridge. [6392]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Intermediate standard. Busy London office. Good prospects. Box 3668. [0080]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required, with at least two years' office experience. Apply in writing to Thomas Mitchell & Partners, 20 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1. [0916]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, London, Final standard. Industrial and commercial. Progressive and interesting. Salary according to experience and ability. Box 3667. [0079]

REPRESENTATIVE for Drawing Office Materials Suppliers with established West End Branch and Showroom to operate locally. Active connections with Architects and Consulting Engineers. Remuneration by salary and commission. Apply Sales Director, Entwistle Thorpe & Co. Ltd., 21/23 Eagle Street, London, W.C.1. [6409]

### ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT (cont)

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, Senior and Junior, required by firm in High Wycombe for commercial and industrial schemes. Scope for responsibility and experience. Five-day week. Write Box 7936. [0690]

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT required for large public advertising company. The appointment will be based at the head office in Coventry. Candidates must have the requisite experience of design and repair work and have a thorough knowledge in taking off and preparing Bills of Quantities. Generous salary and an attractive pension scheme offered to the selected candidate. Preferred age 30 to 35. Please send brief details in confidence to: A. A. Lees, A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S., Company Architect, Mills & Rockleys Ltd., Queen's Road, Coventry. [6391]

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT of final standard, and architectural assistant of about intermediate standard required in West End office. Variety of work in hand including hospital, commercial, industrial and overseas schemes. Five-day week. Pension scheme, luncheon vouchers. Salaries by arrangement.—Telephone LANgham 4091 for appointment. [6375]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (Senior and Junior) Required in busy office handling a wide variety of interesting work including commercial, domestic, school and Brewery projects. Junior will be granted time and facilities for part time study.—Please apply stating experience and salary required to PORTESS & RICHARDSON, Lloyds Bank Chambers, Peterborough. [6404]

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS required by Percy V. Burnett & Partners for interesting and varied work. Apply stating experience and salary required to 12 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, or telephone HOLborn 6177. [6401]

BUILDING SURVEYOR ASSISTANT required by Percy V. Burnett & Partners for interesting and varied work. Apply stating experience and salary required to 12 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, or telephone HOLborn 6177. [6402]

ASSISTANT to Architect required, experienced in the maintenance of Industrial Buildings. Apply for further information to the General Manager, Lancashire United Transport Limited, Atherton, Lancs. [6400]

SENIOR ASSISTANT required in small London Office, interesting work with prospects for right man. Salary up to £1,000 according to ability. Tel: HOL 5046. [6395]

### ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT (cont)

J. DOUGLASS MATHEWS & PARTNERS have three vacancies for Architectural Assistants. Salary range £700/£1,000. Group system operated giving opportunity for taking part in all aspects of work. Graded salary system. Annual bonuses. Pension scheme, luncheon vouchers.—3, Ebury Street, London, S.W.1. [0540]

DEVEREUX & DAVIES require capable and enthusiastic assistant architects salary £1,000 per annum or according to experience and ability.—Devereux & Davies, 3 Gower Street, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1. [0660]

ELIE MAYORCAS requires Senior Assistants with minimum of three years' office experience in this country. Write, giving particulars of architectural education and experience, and salary required, to: 13 David Mews, Baker Street, W.1. [0360]

LARGE-SCALE development in London and industrial buildings in Home Counties. High office blocks and residential flats. Four Assistant Architects required. Senior and Intermediate standard. West End office. Five-day week. Good salaries and bonuses. Box 7076. [0380]

HENING & CHITTY require Assistant Architects (£850/£1,000) for new and interesting work. Particulars to 30 Percy Street, London, W.1. [6368]

MANNING AND CLAMP require Assistants of Intermediate and Final standard for their Richmond Green and London offices, mainly for multi-storey housing and industrial work. Salary range £750/£1,000. Apply in writing to 19 The Green, Richmond. [6337]

MERSEYSIDE. Good salaries, luncheon vouchers, bonus and working conditions offered to Architectural Assistants of all grades on very large industrial scheme. Applicants will be required to work in new branch office in area. Write with full particulars. Box 8445. [0890]

WORK in pleasant office with informal atmosphere. Direct contact with jobs from start to finish in office and on site. Assistants required for variety of projects including school, hospital and industrial work. Salary up to £950, according to ability. Denis Poulton, Philip Freeman and John Rice, FF/A.R.I.B.A., 6a Wyndham Place, W.1. [6385]

GOLLINS, MELVIN, WARD & PARTNERS are looking for Staff to work on the design of Hospital, University and Office projects. Age and experience are less important than enthusiasm and interest in Architecture. Five day week, quarterly bonuses, pension scheme. Ring Welbeck 9991 for appointment. [6412]

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Salary will be generous and will depend upon qualifications and experience.

Other conditions include a good Pension Scheme and five-day week.

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### BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department

#### (A) SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT

#### (B) SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for the above posts in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department at a salary on Scale APT IV (£1,065 — £1,220) plus London weighting, together with an essential user transport allowance.

Candidates for post (A) must be Associate Members of the Town Planning Institute and for post (B) Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Conditions of the appointment and application forms are obtainable from Mr. Colin Cobbett, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Epsom, to whom they must be returned, together with the names of three referees, by Friday the 29th April, 1960.

EDWARD MOORE, Town Clerk  
Town Hall, Epsom, Surrey

## ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT (cont)

£750/£1,000

**YOUNG ARCHITECTS WANTED URGENTLY**  
Senior and Junior Assistants required to work on a variety of interesting contracts, including flats, hospitals, offices, hotels, shops and interiors, etc. Opportunities for modern design and control of contracts. Salaries as above, or according to experience.

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South Kensington. Tel. KENSington 1242 [0790]

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**EXPERIENCED** Builder's General Foreman required. Apply G. E. Sargeantson & Son Ltd., 12 Kingsway, Scunthorpe. State age, experience and salary required, also three references will be needed. [6348]

**JOB LEADER** (Architect) wanted for design and construction of important overseas university buildings. Two-year contract. Commission on new work. Particulars to Henning & Chitty, 30 Percy Street, London, W.1. [6367]

**H. DESMOND HALL** (A) requires experienced Assistants at Beaconsfield, Bucks. Small flat available (but unsuitable for children). Would consider applications for an office in Daventry. [6376]

## SITUATIONS WANTED

**WEST INDIAN DRAUGHTSMAN** with three years' experience, coming to England to further his studies in Architecture requires a job as an apprentice in an architect's office. Write Box 8461. [6403]

**YOUNG MALE** Nigerian student with three years' architectural training and three years' experience in Architects' office seeks employment as architectural assistant in London or suburbs commencing from July. Applicant is sitting for R.I.B.A. Intermediate in Nigeria this June, and wishes to attend part-time and evening course at Hammersmith College for Final while working. J. Ifediora, c/o J. Iwuagwu, Nigerian College of Technology, Zaria, Northern Nigeria. [6405]

## FOR SALE

**ASCOT** gas water heaters, reconditioned guaranteed Multipoint £20. Bath Model £17. Sink Model £7. Part exchanges. Crane, 77, Streatham Hill, S.W.2. TUL 9911/2224. [6406]

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The Managing Director (W.C.58)

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**G. BARTER & CO.**, Industrial Decorative Spray and Brush Painters (labour only on contract). We supply equipment. 1a Whitton Way, Hounslow, Middlesex. HOUnslow 9615. SOUthall 3815. [0083]

## EDUCATIONAL

**CANDIDATES PREPARED FOR R.I.B.A.** Supplementary tuition and Revision Courses also arranged in any subject. Write to the Principal (A. B. Waters, F.R.I.B.A., F.I.Arb.), Ellis School of Architecture 103c Old Brompton Road, London, S.W.7, or to Albany House, Worcester. [0084]

## SERVICES OFFERED

**ARCHITECTURAL** and Visual Planning Models, Prototype Design and Development, Exhibition Stands and Display. Consult: John Evans & Associates, Eastgate House, Cheyne Walk, Northampton. [6393]

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## SHOPFRONTS

**CONSULT** Burns Shopfitters for your Budget-priced Shopfronts. 8 Essex Place, London, W.4. CHI 1852/7601. [0680]

## BOOKS

**ARCHITECTURE AS A CAREER.** A practical handbook for students. By Maurice E. Taylor, M.T.P.I., A.R.I.B.A., F.I.L.A., F.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.(Scot.), R.I.B.A., Dist.T.P., A.A. Dip. Planning. This book offers practical and comprehensive information on the R.I.B.A. examinations, scholarships and prizes, architectural office routine obtaining commissions, making drawings, studying building construction and many other matters the intending architect needs to know. 10s 6d from all booksellers. By post 11s 3d from Hiffe & Sons Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1.

**BUILDING TECHNIQUE FOR DOMESTIC AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.** Edwin Gunn, A.R.I.B.A., Revised by John Brandon-Jones, A.A.Dip., I.R.I.B.A., 3rd edition. Fully revised edition of a well-known reference book on constructional design (formerly "Modern Building Technique"). Containing a lifetime of first-hand experience, proved on the building site, it is an indispensable tool for both the architect and the builder. A valuable feature is the large number of references to publications of such bodies as the Building Research Station and the British Standards Institution. 21s net, from all booksellers, 22s 2d by post from The Publishing Department, Hiffe & Sons Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1.

**CURTAIN WALLING.** With an introduction by Edward D. Mills, F.R.I.B.A. This booklet contains a reprint of an article from THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS giving 16 examples of proprietary curtain walling systems, tabulated details of infilling panels, and names and addresses of manufacturers and suppliers. In addition there are four examples of actual designs from English, American and German sources, together with their detail sheets. 2s 6d net from all booksellers. By post 3s from Hiffe & Sons Ltd. Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1.

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This post requires the sound knowledge of modern architectural practices, building materials and installations.

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THE DE HAVILLAND AIRCRAFT COMPANY LIMITED, Hatfield, Herts.





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## INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Official Notices, Tenders, Auctions, Legal and Miscellaneous Appointments on pages 57, 58 and 59

Adamite Co. Ltd., The .....	6	Dampcoursing Ltd. ....	47	Hill, Aldam E., & Co. Ltd. ....	13	Ramset Fastners (U.K.) Ltd. ....	22
Aerialite Ltd. ....	40	Denison French Ltd. ....	34	Holoplast Ltd. ....	2	Richards, C., & Sons Ltd. ....	16
African Building Board Corporation Ltd. ....	43	Dennison Keit & Co. Ltd. ....	47	Hotchkiss Engineers Ltd. ....	47	Richardson & Starling Ltd. ....	47
Aircscrew Co. & Jicwood Ltd., The .....	26	Donne, Colin .....	48	Ideal Boilers & Radiators Ltd. ....	37	Robertson Thain Ltd. ....	24
Aldam E. Hill & Co. Ltd. ....	13	Durasteel Ltd. ....	47	Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. ....	11 & 29	Rolling Stock & Engineering Co. Ltd. ....	52
Amey's Asphalt Co. Ltd. ....	16	Duresco Products Ltd. ....	25	Isocrete Ltd. ....	52	Rubber Improvements Ltd. ....	35
Ayrshire Dockyard Co. Ltd. ....	30	Electrical Development Association .....	39	Kelseal Ltd. ....	54	Sadd, J., & Sons Ltd. ....	28
Berry Wiggins & Co. Ltd. ....	IBC	Engert & Rolfe Ltd. ....	9	Kenwood Manufacturing (Woking) Ltd. ....	10	Seaboard Lumber Sales Co. Ltd. ....	15 & 31
Blackwell Wyckham Ltd. ....	47	Frode Ltd. ....	IFC	Lion Foundry Co. Ltd. ....	56	Sealocrete Products Ltd. ....	53
Boote, T. & R., Ltd. ....	21	Expandite Ltd. ....	51	London Electric Firm Ltd. ....	8	Shutter Contractors Ltd. ....	52
Boatwick Gate & Shutter Co. Ltd. ....	49	Federated Foundries Ltd. ....	55	Marley Tile Co. Ltd., The. ....	OBC	Smith, C., & J. A. ....	47
British Plumber Ltd. ....	12	Formica Ltd. ....	42	Merchant Adventurers Ltd. ....	33	Steel Radiators Ltd. ....	32
Broughton Moor Green Slate Quarries Ltd. ....	34	Freeman, J., Sons & Co. Ltd. ....	7	Motor Transport ....	50	Stone, J., & Co. (Deptford) Ltd. ....	28
Cement Marketing Co. Ltd., The Central Electricity Generating Board .....	23	General Electric Co. Ltd., The .....	45	Nairn, M., & Co. Ltd. ....	1	Stonhard Co. Ltd. ....	38
Chamberlin Weatherstrips Ltd. ....	36	Gent & Co. Ltd. ....	18	National Enamels Ltd. ....	50	Stuarts Granolithic Co. Ltd. ....	49
Commerce Factors (G.B.) Ltd. ....	60	Granwood Flooring Co. Ltd. ....	4	Newman, Wm., & Sons Ltd. ....	27	Surfex Flooring Co. Ltd. ....	54
Compaction Ltd. ....	30	Hallam, V., Ltd. ....	17	Newton of Wembley. ....	56	Thermacoust Ltd. ....	55
Cox, W. J., Ltd. ....	47	Halstead, J., Ltd. ....	19	North British Linoleum Co. Ltd. ....	3	Thermalite Ytong Ltd. ....	46
Coxens Ventilators Ltd. ....	47	Harvey, G. A., & Co. (London) Ltd. ....	40	Partridge, Wilson & Co. Ltd. ....	36	Thom, J., Ltd. ....	60
Crappier, T., & Co. Ltd. ....	47	Hickson's Timber Impregnation Co. (G.B.) Ltd. ....	44	Permanite Ltd. ....	41	Truscon Ltd. ....	47
Curlew Doors & Shutters Ltd. ....	36	High Duty Alloys Ltd. ....	5	Philips Electrical Ltd. ....	14	Unique Balance Co. Ltd. ....	54

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Amey's Asphalt Co. Ltd.	16	Duresco Products Ltd.	25	Isocrete Ltd.	52	Rubber Improvements Ltd.	35
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Blackwell Wyckham Ltd.	47	Evode Ltd.	IFC	Lion Foundry Co. Ltd.	56	Sealocrete Products Ltd.	53
Boote, T. & R., Ltd.	21	Expandite Ltd.	51	London Electric Firm Ltd.	8	Shutter Contractors Ltd.	52
Bostwick Gate & Shutter Co. Ltd.	49	Federated Foundries Ltd.	55	Marley Tile Co. Ltd., The	OBC	Smith, C., & J. A.	47
British Plimber Ltd.	12	Formica Ltd.	42	Merchant Adventurers Ltd.	33	Steel Radiators Ltd.	32
Broughton Moor Green Slate Quarries Ltd.	34	Freeman, J., Sons & Co. Ltd.	7	Motor Transport	50	Stone, J., & Co. (Deptford) Ltd.	28
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Commerce Factors (G.B.) Ltd.	60	Hallam, V., Ltd.	17	Newtons of Wembley	56	Thermacoust Ltd.	55
Compactum Ltd.	20	Halstead, J., Ltd.	19	North British Linoleum Co. Ltd.	3	Thermalite Ytong Ltd.	46
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Crapper, T., & Co. Ltd.	47	High Duty Alloys Ltd.	5	Philips Electrical Ltd.	14	Unique Balance Co. Ltd.	54
Curfew Doors & Shutters Ltd.	36						

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New Products when published in the editorial columns are alphabetically listed. Please mark those letters where you would like to receive further information and catalogues. For information on other editorial content enter your inquiry in the space provided.

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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Other Editorial content:

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EIGHT GOOD REASONS WHY ARCHITECTS SHOULD SPECIFY

# AQUASEAL 66

COLOURLESS SILICONE WATER REPELLENT

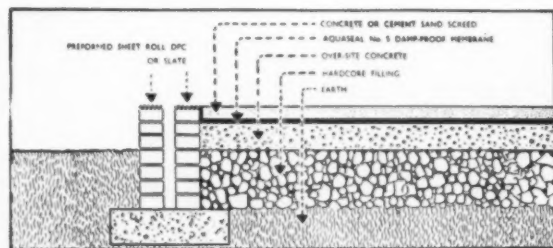
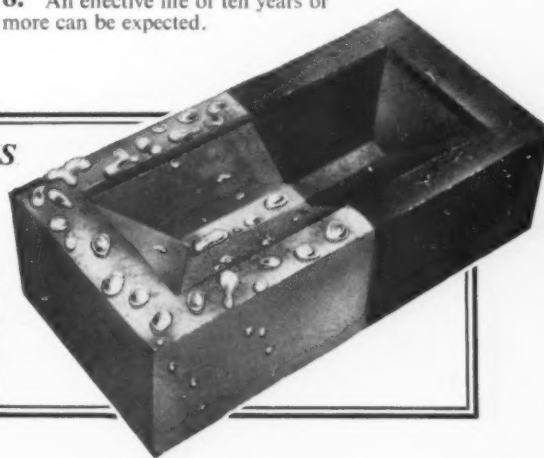
## for waterproofing building surfaces

1. AQUASEAL 66 keeps exterior above-ground walls dry.
2. Protects against weathering, frost spalling, cracking, crazing and erosion caused by chemicals in the air.
3. Does not seal the surface; masonry can still breathe and dampness within walls can dry out.
4. Heat insulation of walls is preserved.
5. AQUASEAL 66 is completely colourless and cannot affect the appearance of the surface treated.
6. Treated walls keep cleaner—water-borne soot and dirt cannot penetrate so easily.
7. Chemically inert and does not damage masonry.
8. An effective life of ten years or more can be expected.

### SEE HOW EFFECTIVE AQUASEAL 66 IS

Samples of common brick treated with Colourless AQUASEAL were immersed in  $\frac{1}{4}$ " water and tested for absorption after 24 and 168 hours.

EXPOSURE TIME IN HOURS	% WATER ABSORPTION	
	UNTREATED BRICKS	TREATED BRICKS
24	16.37	0.00
168	16.94	0.01



## AQUASEAL 5

LIQUID BITUMEN PROOFING

For damp-proof membranes in concrete floors. Within a few hours of application AQUASEAL 5 forms a firm jointless water-proof coating that protects flooring against damage by rising damp. AQUASEAL remains flexible, taking up any slight movement in the foundation.

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In new buildings and the reconstruction of old, Marleymura tiles make an outstanding practical contribution to functional wall decoration

### MARLEYMURA tile sizes

The actual dimension of each tile is 12" x 5½" which permits any design to be used while

still maintaining an equal ½" framed spacing between tiles. Five pastel colours and black, gauge jointed in white.



